

BSGD MAGAZINE





It is a pleasure to introduce this edition of our *School Magazine*, which records another very full year in the life of the Girls' Division.

One of the features of any given school year is that, while we experience it day by day, it is only when we reach its end – and particularly when we turn the pages of a publication such as this – that we appreciate quite how much has happened. Lessons and examinations sit alongside concerts and productions; fixtures alongside

expeditions; competitions alongside charity events; individual successes alongside shared experiences. What can seem, at the time, simply to be the rhythm of school life becomes, in retrospect, a remarkable record of endeavour.

The 2025–26 academic year gave us a particular opportunity to reflect on that life when, in April, the Independent Schools Inspectorate visited the Girls' Division. Inspection inevitably brings with it a degree of apprehension: for two and a half days, a team of inspectors observed lessons and activities, talked to pupils and staff, scrutinised work and documentation and examined almost every aspect of school life. The resulting report was one of which we could be very proud. All of the relevant Standards were met, across education, leadership and governance, wellbeing, pupils' contribution to society and safeguarding. More interesting to me than the regulatory language, however, was the picture of the school that emerged, and it is one which I hope those who know Bolton School Girls' Division well would recognise.

The inspectors described a school in which pupils are known as individuals and in which their ideas are listened to; a school where wellbeing is at the heart of our provision and where belonging matters. They saw a broad and ambitious curriculum alongside an extensive programme of music, drama, sport and residential experiences. They saw pupils working collaboratively, showing respect for one another and developing teamwork, resilience and creativity beyond the classroom.

They also recognised something which has long been central to our understanding of education here: that what our pupils do with their talents matters as much as the talents themselves. Kindness, equality, empathy, inclusivity and community were identified as values embedded in the daily life of the school, whilst the inspectors commented particularly on the high numbers of pupils involved in volunteering and their understanding of the value of service to others.

Those observations seem especially fitting as an introduction to this *Magazine* because the pages that follow provide the evidence.

You will find academic success, certainly, but also music, drama and art; sporting achievement at every level; trips and expeditions; debating, competitions and clubs; fundraising and volunteering; leadership and service. There are pupils achieving at a national level and others trying something for the first time. Both belong in these pages because both are part of what education should be.

The inspection also reminded us of the value of a strong culture of academic aspiration. Our Teaching and Learning Framework focusses on ambitious thinking and independence: we ask our pupils to be curious, to respond thoughtfully to feedback, to take intellectual risks and to believe that improvement is always possible.

They saw, too, that our pupils develop “increasing independence, self-awareness and the ability to make informed decisions about their futures”. That seems to me a rather good description of what we ultimately hope a Bolton School education will achieve. Our pupils will leave us with examination results and qualifications, of course. But we hope they will leave with considerably more: the confidence to speak and the wisdom to listen; the courage to attempt difficult things and the resilience to recover when they do not immediately succeed; an understanding that achievement brings responsibility as well as satisfaction; and a sense that their education equips them not simply to make their way in the world, but to contribute something worthwhile to it.

You will see, I am sure, that our *School Magazine* captures that process in progress. Its photographs inevitably preserve the conspicuous moments – trophies lifted, curtains raised, expeditions completed and prizes won – but behind each photograph are hundreds of quieter moments: rehearsals, practices, conversations, acts of kindness, questions asked in lessons, mistakes corrected, friendships formed and confidence gradually acquired. Moments which are harder to photograph, but nonetheless form the foundations of a successful holistic education.

I am immensely grateful to my colleagues for the expertise, imagination and extraordinary commitment they bring to the school, and to our parents, Old Girls, Governors and wider community for the many ways in which they support us. Above all, I congratulate our pupils. Their curiosity, energy, good humour and willingness to become involved give the Girls' Division its distinctive character.

I hope that you enjoy reading this edition of the *Magazine* and that, like me, you see within its pages far more than a record of one busy academic year.

Mrs Lynne Kyle
Head of Girls' Division

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Inspection Report



Our Girls' Senior School and Hesketh House were inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in April 2026, with both schools meeting all five standards assessed.

The inspection followed the ISI's 2023 framework, looking closely at the education pupils receive, their wellbeing and contribution to society, as well as leadership and safeguarding.

Inspectors found that the Foundation's values of inclusivity, community and empathy are firmly embedded in everyday School life. Pupils benefit from broad, carefully considered curricula which support successful progress and help them develop their knowledge and understanding.

Pupil wellbeing was also recognised as being at the heart of both schools. Inspectors noted that pupils are treated as individuals, that their ideas are listened to and that they work successfully with staff and one another.

The report highlighted the wide range of extracurricular opportunities available, which give pupils shared experiences and help them build resilience. It also recognised the contribution pupils make to their communities, alongside the respect shown for diversity and one another's differences.

Careers education was another area noted by inspectors, helping pupils make informed decisions about their futures and connecting academic study with the real world.

The report also found governance to be effective and well informed, with robust safeguarding practices and the School's buildings and wider site thoroughly maintained.

Double Recognition for Social Mobility

Bolton School's commitment to social mobility received national recognition not once, but twice this year, with two major awards arriving within the space of just two weeks.

First came the 2025 UK Social Mobility Awards (SOMOs), where Bolton School was named School/College of the Year. Often described as the 'Oscars for Social Mobility', the SOMOs celebrate work that is helping to create opportunities for people from less advantaged socio-economic backgrounds across the UK.

Just two weeks later, there was more to celebrate when Bolton School was named Independent School of the Year for Contribution to Social Mobility 2025 at the Independent School Parent magazine Independent School of the Year Awards.

Both awards recognised work that has been part of Bolton School for many years. Our nationally leading bursary scheme currently supports one in five Senior School pupils, while outreach and admissions work helps ensure that families who could benefit from bursary support know that a Bolton School education is within reach. Dedicated pastoral support then helps bursary pupils make the most of their time at School and beyond.

The School's wider partnership work across Bolton was also recognised, including its work with organisations such as OnSide and The Bursary Foundation, both of which help extend opportunities to young people beyond the School itself.

Central to both award submissions was the Open Futures Bursary Campaign, which aims to grow bursary provision so that one in three pupils can benefit from a Bolton School education. Since launching in May 2025, the campaign has already secured more than £1 million in donations and pledges, with support coming from across the School community, including Alumni who themselves benefited from funded places.

Head of Foundation Philip Britton MBE, who accepted the SOMO award in London, said: "I was very proud to accept the UK Social Mobility Award for School/College of the Year on behalf of Bolton School... it acknowledges the life chances the School has given to so many young people in Bolton over the decades."

Reflecting on both national awards, he added: "First and foremost, Bolton School's work in this regard is transforming the life chances of many individual young people, providing them with opportunities and encouraging their aspirations."



THE HIVE CONTINUES TO CREATE BUZZ AROUND INCLUSION AND SUPPORT

The Hive has had another fantastic year, continuing to provide a welcoming space where pupils can find support, try something new and spend time with friends.

Lunchtime enrichment activities have been busier than ever, with Crochet and Crafts, Board Games, Joyful Journaling and Film Club all proving popular and providing pupils with an opportunity to relax, socialise, develop new skills and build friendships in an inclusive and supportive setting.

A particular focus this year has been developing oral literacy and helping pupils grow in confidence when reading aloud, communicating ideas and engaging in discussion. Our Year 10 reading mentors have done an amazing job supporting younger pupils, showing real kindness, patience and leadership after completing their mentor training.

Another exciting addition has been our wellbeing mentoring programme. Year 12 students now lead weekly sessions for Lower School pupils, offering advice, encouragement and a friendly face. The programme has helped younger pupils settle into School life while giving Sixth Form students the chance to develop valuable leadership skills.

Alongside these activities, The Hive continues to provide one to one support and weekly Lexia sessions to help pupils strengthen their reading, comprehension and grammar. Every pupil receives the support they need to grow in confidence and reach their potential.

Above all, The Hive is a place where everyone is welcome, where every pupil feels valued, understood, safe and able to access the support they need to flourish both academically and personally.



YEAR 7

YEAR 7

As always, this year seems to have gone faster than ever. Year 7 pupils have achieved so much and should be incredibly proud of all they have accomplished during such a busy and memorable year. From the Patterdale outdoor learning trip to trips abroad, competitive inter-form sports and impressive charity work, pupils have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and maturity. It has been a pleasure to watch friendships grow, confidence develop and so many students thrive both inside and outside the classroom. I look forward to seeing all they achieve in the years ahead.

Mrs James, Head of Year 7

7A

Earlier this year we went to the theatre to watch *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* at the theatre. The play was fantastic. The actors were brilliant and the costumes and special effects made the story feel real. Our favourite part was when Aslan appeared on stage because it was dramatic and exciting to watch. We also liked how the set changed during different scenes, especially when Narnia was covered in snow. It was one of the best school trips we have been on this year because we got to spend time with our friends and enjoy such an incredible performance.

7B

7B absolutely loved going to Patterdale. This year we experienced canoeing, archery, hiking, orienteering and team building activities, which was fun. Hiking was a real challenge for most of us, as we were exhausted, but we pushed through and there was a huge sense of accomplishment when we reached the top of the mountain. We learnt a lot from these activities, including determination, communication and useful skills such as learning how to orienteer so we don't get lost! The food is absolutely delicious and was appreciated after a tiring day. We got to know each other better, learnt lots of skills and went outside our comfort zone and are really looking forward to going again in Year 8!



7C

Since September, we have taken part in many charity events in School: we did a Sponsored Silence and raised £3817.25 as a year group! We went to Smyths Toys and bought many gifts which were given to Bolton Lions Christmas Appeal for to local families who may not receive gifts at Christmas.

We have loved coming to School in our own clothes as part of the non-uniform days. These helped to raise money for important causes, including Breaking Barriers Bolton, Bury Hospice, Fortalice and Action for Pulmonary

Fibrosis. In December, we had a day to wear Christmas Jumper to raise money for two charities: Parkinson's UK and Manchester Youth Zone.



7D

World Book Day 2026 was an inspiring, fun and amazing literary event that our form really enjoyed. Part of the World Book Day celebrations at School meant that each



form had to design their own book cover. 7D created an amazing cover for *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory* and we won the competition out of the other five forms in Year 7 and we are very proud! The other part of the event was the opportunity to dress up as a well-known literary character. World Book Day was an amazing day and it's a great way for everyone to get involved in reading. Keep turning those pages and you'll never know what you find!

7E

Skipton Castle was the highlight for 7E this year. As we had our guided tour around the castle, we marvelled at the large kitchens and spacious banqueting halls. We learnt



everything from arrow slits to drop toilets. When lunch came around the hall was full of excited chatter. We all knew what was coming next... It would be the dungeons! As we went down the cold stone steps into the dungeon, we all experienced a nervous chill run down our spine: 'What was lurking?' Our tour guide turned off the lights to reenact what it would've been like in the past. Our screams echoed through the dungeons as the darkness hit our eyes. We also had time to dress up, handle artefacts and play lots of games. Definitely a place to return to!

7F

One of the highlights for 7F has been the inter-form competition, where students compete



alongside their forms to be crowned champions.

Throughout the year, pupils have taken part in exciting competitions including orienteering, football, lacrosse and netball, as well as athletics and rounders events in the Summer. These competitions encourage teamwork, resilience, determination and a strong sense of form pride. Students look forward to PE lessons because they offer the chance to learn new skills and try sports they may never have experienced before. Lessons are energetic and provide plenty of opportunities for students to stay active and challenge themselves.

YEAR 8

Sport

Year 8 saw a big evolution of our water polo team! The dedication of the team attending the morning sessions lead them to achieve what was previously thought impossible: capturing two national titles in a single season: both the girls U13 title and the mixed U13 trophy which had never been won by an all-female team before!

Inter-form lacrosse is always a thrilling experience because of the high energy and sportsmanship at Bolton School. Whilst competing, each team showed resilience and stamina, performing to the best of their abilities but ultimately 8F took the glory!

World Book Day

All forms worked collaboratively to produce their World Book Day poster, sharing their ideas and impressive artistic skills whilst having fun creating a colourful and creative display. 8B were the competition winners with their *The Day the Crayons Quit* poster.

The literacy enthusiasm continued with many people dressing up in various costumes of their favourite or well-known characters. Year 8 featured Eeyore, Matilda and The Cat in the Hat!



Another great part of World Book Day was the event that took place in the Great Hall, where many members of the year took part in quizzes to win prizes. We also wrote our own stories in an attempt to win some yummy cake!

Charities

In Year 8, charity continues to be a very important part of the year. There have been events such as non-uniform days, Christmas jumper day, sweet sales and harvest festivals to raise money for charities, including £639 raised for the Hello Yellow event which helps to support young people's mental health; £1,336 raised for Red Card to Racism, which funds programmes that promote inclusion and challenge discriminatory attitudes; and £656.91 raised for Bury Hospice, which can help them continue to provide care for those in the community. We know every single penny collected will go towards providing support for people in need and we hope that this generosity and kindness can make an impact on society and be a way for us to give back to our community.

Trips

In April, we have had an amazing opportunity to visit a Mosque and a Church for a Year 8 RS Trip. In the Mosque's prayer hall we learned about the details of the Mosque's structure and the Five Pillars of Islam, the importance of staying true to Allah and the value of diversity, as well as how anyone can choose to follow Islam. At the Church, we learned about the importance of baptism and what a typical church service is like. We were surprised by how modern the church was

compared to the traditional style we expected, and the songs the staff played made it feel almost like a concert. We had an amazing time!

Patterdale

Patterdale Hall was a beautiful and welcoming place, and as always, the food was excellent! One of the best parts of the trip was spending time in the dormitories with our friends: telling ghost stories, sharing snacks, practicing dances and doing each other's hair, which made it feel like one big sleepover. Everyone also loved the coach ride, where we sang songs together and played UNO, making the journey just as enjoyable as the destination.



What made Patterdale so special was the chance to spend time with friends while trying new things. It is an opportunity to explore and get outside of your comfort zone with activities such as canoeing, kayaking and gorge walking.

School Life

This year, we have enjoyed many events such as the Prefects' Panto, Year 10 Christmas Post, Holi colour run and culture day. Our personal favourite is "This is Me" day because everyone can express themselves without judgement. We also like to see how diverse our School community really is and we believe this is what our founder Lord Leverhulme would've wanted for the future generations to come. These events help us take some time for ourselves away from our busy School life, helping us to thrive and reduce stress.

Mrs Mann, Head of Year 8

YEAR 8



YEAR 9

YEAR 9

Year 9 has been another memorable year, packed with new experiences, exciting opportunities and plenty of reasons to celebrate as pupils prepare for the move into Year 10.

Choosing GCSE options was one of the biggest milestones of the year. Whilst it felt like a daunting decision at first, by the Christmas break, most pupils were feeling confident and excited about the subjects they had chosen for the next stage of their Bolton School journey.



Throughout the year, the forms have grown closer through inter-form competitions, school events and trips, always cheering each other on and creating lasting memories. There has been plenty of healthy competition, with some forms determined to defend the titles they won in Year 8 and others eager to claim victory for themselves. Many pupils also challenged themselves by taking part in debates and public speaking activities, building confidence and learning how to communicate their ideas effectively.

World Book Day was a particular highlight, with imaginative costumes and impressive form door displays showcasing the creativity and talent across the year group. Pupils also organised a sweet sale for 'Hello Yellow Day', raising money to support young people's mental health while demonstrating fantastic teamwork and enthusiasm for the cause.

A visit to the Imperial War Museum gave pupils the opportunity to explore history in a different way: with a project to create a documentary whilst developing valuable collaboration skills.

As the year drew to a close, attention turned to preparing for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. Whilst forms D, E and F battled heavy rain and what instructors described as some of the toughest weather



they had experienced, forms A, B and C faced much warmer conditions, making the long walks equally demanding. Whatever the weather, each pupil kept going until they reached the finish and should be incredibly proud of what they achieved.

Although Year 9 marks the end of form groups as pupils know them, there is plenty to look forward to. As one pupil reflected:

"We're sad that this is our final year together as a form, but we're excited for everything Year 10 will bring. We'll always remember the friendships and experiences we've shared, and we're looking forward to making even more memories in the years ahead."

Mr McBride, Head of Year 9



YEAR 10

YEAR 10

ICELAND TRIP

During February half term, we had the extraordinary chance to go on a School trip to Iceland where we saw countless stunning waterfalls and landscapes, volcanoes and glaciers and even caught a glimpse of the beautiful northern lights on our last night!



WORLD BOOK DAY

It is an amazing experience to dress up for World Book Day as you get to match with friends, find people who have read the same books as you and see other people's creative costumes. It is a great opportunity to dress up and express your love for reading!



SILVER DUKE OF EDINBURGH

A group of Year 10 pupils took part in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition, where they spent two nights camping and completed long walks whilst working together to overcome challenges along the way. It was a great experience that helped to build teamwork, confidence and memories to cherish.

THE GLORIOUS CHICKMANS

Written by Ben Cain, directed by our own Miss Talbot and commissioned by the 'Write the Girl' foundation, *'The Glorious Chickmans'* was a brilliant winter production that students from Year 7 all the way to Year 13 really enjoyed. Some Year 10 pupils were part of the cast with one commenting that "between the rehearsals, the inside jokes about eggs and the buzz of the final shows, it was definitely an unforgettable experience. It was easily the highlight of my year and I'd do it all over again if I could."

CULTURE DAY

Our 2026 Culture Week was fantastic, there were a range of activities taking place in the Great Hall to educate students on different ethics and cultural teaching by doing fun activities. On Culture Day, everyone came in wearing their fabulous cultural clothes, it was a good way for everyone to express themselves through their culture showing that every culture is unique in their own way.

TRANSITION FROM Y9 TO Y10

At first the transition seemed "terrifying and unfamiliar" to the pupils, but the amount of support available made it a new but an enjoyable experience. Changing forms presented the opportunity to make new friends and socialise more across School, to engage with more people in lessons and an increased variety of extra-curricular activities.

CHRISTMAS POST

Christmas Post is always the highlight of Year 10's Autumn Term! It is a core memory full of laughter and excitement with a chance to support a charity alongside some friendly competition and creative flair!

Mrs Neil, Head of Year 10





YEAR 11

The year began with Year 11's annual charity fundraiser, with each form running its own outdoor snack stall selling baked goods, crisps, popcorn, drinks, chocolate and sweets. Thanks to the fantastic support from pupils and staff, an incredible £264.50 was raised for The Christie, helping to support the incredible work of the charity.

BECOMING ROLE MODELS

During the first half of the year, Year 11 Prefects played an important role in helping Year 7 pupils get settled into life at Bolton School. Each Year 7 form was paired with a Prefect who attended morning form time to offer advice and provide a friendly face each day. The Year 7s really appreciated their support and were made to feel very welcome whilst the Prefects enjoyed getting to know them and have the chance to act as positive role models.

PROM ICE BREAKER

During the Spring Term we held, what is becoming the most eagerly anticipated event for Year 11, the Prom Ice Breaker. Pupils from the Girls' and Boys' Divisions came together in the Hall, playing a variety of games such as Human Bingo and Uno to get to know one another better before the summer Prom and imminent Riley Centre Sixth Form experience.

A FOND FAREWELL

On Friday 1st May, Year 11 gathered for one final afternoon together before embarking on study leave. Students brought shirts in to be signed and we spent an emotional afternoon in the Arts Centre sharing memories of their time at Bolton School with speeches and photography. The students were congratulated on everything they had achieved so far and we wished them luck for their upcoming exams.

The celebrations ended with the much-loved Girls' Division tradition of playing rounders on the levels, providing a fitting end to the year.

Year 11, thank you for your contributions to life at Bolton School over the last five years, and we look forward to seeing all you achieve in the future!

Mrs Ball, Head of Year 11



YEAR 12

Chat-GD is a mentoring programme where Year 12 support pupils from the Lower School with anything that is troubling them. After several training sessions, we had the opportunity to have one-to-one sessions with our mentees in the Great Hall, where sweets and tissues were provided to allow a positive, homely environment. We learnt how to assist our mentees with their troubles and consider ways to help them to feel better. It was fulfilling to know we had a positive impact on their School lives.

Mariam Bokhari

Volunteering this year has been a huge part of Sixth Form. As part of the Community Action programme, I've been encouraged to take part in many volunteering activities, including at Bolton Hospice and Park Road, where I helped young children with their reading. Both experiences improved my communication, interpersonal and teamwork skills, allowing me to learn and develop outside of the classroom. There was also an opportunity to achieve bronze, silver or gold awards based on the number of hours spent volunteering. I managed to complete over 100 hours, which meant I achieved the gold award. This was a great achievement: I'm so proud to have dedicated that amount of time to my local community and made a difference to other people's lives.

Disha Challa

Year 12 has been filled with many lasting memories, whether it be the tradition of Prefect gowning, our first duty at the May Serenade or the chance to venture beyond the classroom. A key highlight was visiting Patterdale Hall, as it was our final year group trip there. We were given more freedom to choose our activities, making a delightful time spent with friends, old and new. Our diverse subject choices also opened doors to various excursions, from Art and Graphics students exploring London to the RS trip to Cadbury World. We've also had numerous super-curricular opportunities such as Oxbridge preparation talks, Econ Society, MedSoc, Debating, the UCAT training day and many more. Whilst Year 12 has been a challenging stepping stone from Year 11, we have the Prefects' Panto and Easter Extravaganza to look forward to in Year 13.

Oralia Ho



Yale Young Global Scholars is a highly competitive pre-university summer programme where participants study on Yale's campus for around two weeks and engage with pressing issues relevant to their chosen topic. Out of the three tracks (SGC, IST, and PLE), I secured my chosen Politics of Law and Economics session. I'm absolutely thrilled to have been successful out of more than 14000 global applications, in the Regular Decision round too - hopefully a testament to my abilities and efforts as the application form was very demanding and similar to US university applications! More than anything, I'm looking forward to pushing my academic limits with Yale professors and graduates in seminars, as well as getting to know the international cohort through debates and the Capstone Project, which is completed in groups over the two weeks and presented back to Alumni. I'm super excited to step on campus soon!

Astrid King

Joining Bolton School in Year 12 and meeting new friends, navigating independent study and completing ECAs, all whilst being in a new environment has been made easier through the support and understanding from my friends and teachers. The three-day residential trip to Patterdale Hall in October was a great way to settle in with activities which I would usually shy away from. Random team allocation enabled us to take part in various team-based challenges, building my leadership skills whilst forming strong friendships.

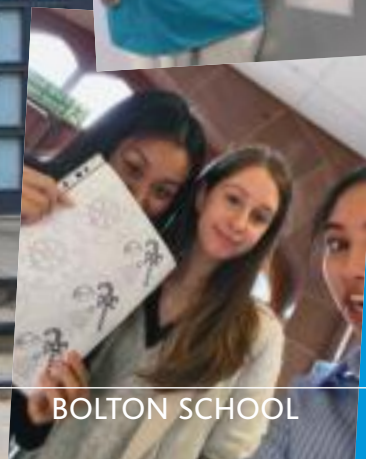
As the year progressed, I began finding my place within the School. Being a Muslim student of colour, a strong part of my identity is rooted within my culture and religion so, events such as Culture Day and the school Iftaar allowed me to feel like I belonged. The stories that were shared and the strong sense of community left me feeling as though I have always been a part of Bolton School.

The most memorable moment of my year was the Platt Fisher Lecture with Professor Sue Turner, OBE. Professor Turner presented AI in a new light, describing it as a tool that makes our questions valuable and a gateway to more questions: a view I will carry with me for a long time.

I vividly recall my first day in Year 12, full of jitters as I began my journey. Now, I am thoroughly enjoying my time here, (not just because of the food at the Riley Café!) and I look forward to making lifelong memories with everyone. I will continue to strive for success and one day return as an 'Old Girl' to thank the School for the countless opportunities and support they have given me so far.

Halima Yusuf

YEAR 12



YEAR 13



YEAR 13

As Year 13 come to the end of their time at School, it has been a pleasure to reflect on a year that has been full of energy, character and memorable moments. This is a year group who have never been short of opinions, confidence or personality and they have certainly left their mark on the Sixth Form.

Alongside the demands of A Level study, university applications, apprenticeships, interviews and future planning, Year 13 have contributed to many aspects of School life. They have taken on leadership roles, supported younger pupils, represented the School in a range of activities and helped to create events that have brought the community together.

One of the highlights of the year was the Prefects' Panto, *Little Brown Riding Hood*, which offered a sharp but good-humoured satire of School life, with the characters of Mr Brown and Mr Boyle taking leading roles. The event was both entertaining and purposeful, raising money for Bolton Together, a local charity supporting families facing hardship, poverty and homelessness in Bolton.



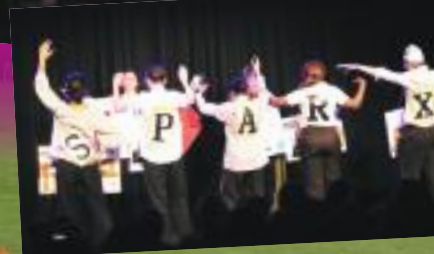
The Easter Extravaganza was another memorable occasion, featuring teacher dance-offs and the traditional *Life of a Bolton School Girl*. These events captured much of what has made this year group

distinctive: humour, creativity, confidence and a willingness to get involved.

The final year of School is always a significant one, bringing challenge, pressure and important decisions about the future but it has been a pleasure to see our students grow in independence and begin to take ownership of their next steps.

We thank Year 13 for their contribution to the School and wish them every success as they move on to the next stage of their lives. They leave with our best wishes and we look forward to hearing about all that they go on to achieve.

Mr Radcliffe, Head of Year 13



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Charity has once again been a huge part of School life this year, with pupils finding all sorts of ways to support causes that matter to them. Together, the School community has raised more than £21,000, alongside generous donations of food and gifts for people across Bolton.

Year 7 made an incredible contribution through their Sponsored Silence, raising £3,938.25 for the Bolton Lions' Toy Appeal and donating around £200 worth of toys to help local children at Christmas. Year 9 supported YoungMinds through Hello Yellow Day, raising £639.21, while Year 10's Christmas Post brought in £1,877.05 for Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Year 11 also played their part, raising £264.60 for The Christie through sweet sales.



Our Sixth Form students came up with plenty of fundraising ideas of their own. Meerab Adeel and helpers raised £642.17 for Save the Children with a bake sale, while Disha Challa, Sara Mahomed and helpers raised £405.53 for Bolton Hospice through a bake sale and Jellycat raffle. Stella Rojek and helpers raised £60 for Make-A-Wish, and Marryum Gul, Christine Ekweogu, Nikita Dontula and Ameena Patel raised £418.83 for Médecins Sans Frontières. The Year 13 Prefects' Panto added another £652.62 for Bolton Together, supporting local families facing hardship.

There was plenty happening across the whole School too. Wear Red Day raised £1,336.67 for Show Racism the Red Card, while Christmas Jumper Day raised £1,188.38 for Parkinson's UK and Manchester Youth Zone. February's non-uniform day brought in £1,313.83 for Breaking Barriers Bolton and Bury Hospice, and the final Year 13 non-uniform day raised around £1,000 for Fortalice and Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis.

Not everything was about raising money. Around 400 Easter eggs, worth approximately



£600, were donated to Homeless Aid UK, while the Harvest Festival collected 41 crates of food, worth around £2,870, for Urban Outreach. Girls' Division also donated an amazing 1,649 selection boxes, worth £3,298, as part of the Foundation total of 3,452. Pupils also supported the Foundation Hamper Challenge, creating Christmas hampers for local people facing hardship, and helped the Foundation raise around £1,500 for the Royal British Legion through the Poppy Appeal.

Giving their time has been just as important. This year, our Year 12 pupils completed an incredible 5,754 hours of volunteering – an average of 60 hours each – supporting charities and organisations across Bolton and the surrounding area.

The girls gave their time to Bolton Hospital, Bolton Hospice, Sailing Cadet Club, Islamic Relief Charity Shop, Bolton Lions, The Salvation Army, Homeless Aid, Urban Outreach Foodbank, Senior Solutions, Fortalice, Parkrun, Brownie Guides, The British Heart Foundation and The Woodland Trust. Every placement was different, giving pupils the chance to make a genuine contribution while gaining experience of their own.

Those hours soon added up. This year, 87 volunteering certificates were presented, with an impressive quarter of the year group

achieving a Gold Award for completing more than 100 hours of volunteering since September.

For many of the girls, though, the experience has meant much more than the number of hours they completed.

"At the Tea at the Riley party, I had to speak publicly as I was hosting the bingo. It was scary, but I'm so glad I got out my comfort zone! Everyone had a wonderful time, and I spoke to a room full of people I didn't know. That was a massive step for me."

Marryum Gul

"Through volunteering, I have developed a wide range of communication and interpersonal skills. I was the first point of contact for customers, so when there was a language barrier, I made sure to adapt my communication. Some customers didn't speak fluent English and had to communicate with me in Urdu. To accommodate them, I replied in Urdu to the best of my ability. This taught me that I don't have to be perfect in my communication, but I should always try my best to help someone and ensure they're comfortable. Over time, this definitely improved my confidence! I'm now able to confidently talk to people from different backgrounds."

Zaynab Bhatia – Islamic Relief Charity Shop



"My volunteering allows people to live comfortably during the last moments of their lives. Serving drinks and refreshments might seem insignificant in the grand scheme of things, but it all helps to allow the patient to feel comfortable, respected and cared for during an extremely stressful time."

This role has also helped me become more independent. I've learnt to make decisions confidently, whether that be assisting customers or simply organising the shop. It's also taught me to take the initiative during busy periods without having to rely on my team. As no two days are the same, I've learnt to adapt to different situations and respond to unpredictable customers."

Nikita Dontula – Bolton Hospice

"I have learned the importance of kindness and helping others in need. It has improved my communication skills and made me more understanding of different life situations. This experience has also made me more grateful for what I have and has motivated me to continue helping people in the future."

One moment that really stayed with me was when I was handing out food to people experiencing homelessness. After I gave one man his meal, he came back later and shared a poem he had written for all the volunteers, thanking us and describing how much small acts of kindness meant to him. It made me realise that what I was doing wasn't just about giving food, but about showing care and connection. It also made me feel proud to know that I could make a positive difference, even in a simple way."

Anushka Kishore – Homeless Aid

"I think my volunteering has made a difference by helping to create a positive and supportive space for the girls each week. Just being there consistently means they have someone to listen to them, encourage them and get involved in what they're doing. Through activities and games, I've helped them feel included and able to enjoy themselves, even if they're unsure at first, such as during group activities when they might not know what to do straight away. I hope it's also shown them that trying new things doesn't have to be scary. Overall, I think it's helped make our weekly sessions feel more welcoming and enjoyable."

An incredible amount of time and hard work has gone into all of this, and the girls should be very proud of what they have achieved. Their efforts continue to reflect the School motto: "Much is required of those to whom much is given."

Imogen Linas – Brownie Guides



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

The annual Duke of Edinburgh Awards Ceremony took place at the end of April in the Girls' Division Great Hall. Attended by staff, students and family members, this occasion was a very special opportunity to celebrate the young people who have achieved their Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

The guest speaker for the evening was Old Boy Will Sheaff (Class of 2004), whose life-long passion for outdoor learning first began at Bolton School and has continued throughout his interesting and diverse career. Now a self-employed consultant for challenge events and part-time Duke of Edinburgh Award manager for a pair of North London schools, he was able to share his insights and adventures with the audience.

Following a short welcome from the Head of Foundation, Mr Britton, a small number of students shared their experiences completing the four or five sections of their Awards: volunteering, physical, skills, expedition and residential for Gold Award only. Hugo and

Daniel (Year 12) and Amina and Tilly (Year 11) spoke about the Silver Award, while Nathan, Umme-Hani and Prisha (Year 13) recapped their Gold Award experiences. From coaching sports teams to helping out at a farm, developing sporting and musical talents to braving the elements to complete their expeditions, these students shared their inspiring experiences with the audience. The Gold Award participants also encouraged the Silver Award winners to continue their Duke of Edinburgh journey with Gold Award.

The Awards were then presented by the guest speaker for the evening and Ms Heinz (Silver Boys), Ms Teichman (Silver Girls), Mr Bradley (Gold Boys) and Miss Gunshon (Gold Girls).



BRONZE AWARD

9F

During our time in the Lake District, we took part in our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expedition. It definitely pushed us out of our comfort zones. We walked with people we didn't know as well, which gave us the chance to get to know each other better while tackling the challenge together. We were rewarded with incredible views across Ullswater and the surrounding fells, and because we had to navigate without our instructors walking alongside us, we learned to trust our own decisions and work things out as a team.

As a form, we all found the expedition challenging and, at times, exhausting. There were moments when we wondered how much further we had to walk, but there were just as many moments when we were laughing together and enjoying the experience. Over the two days, we became much more confident with map reading and navigation, and we realised we were capable of far more than we first thought. Looking back, we're all glad we stuck with it. It wasn't always easy, but it's an experience we'll remember for a long time.

9E

Duke of Edinburgh was definitely an experience we won't forget. It built our resilience, but most importantly, showed how strong our friendships were as a form, as we needed to lean on each other to get through it. One of our favourite memories was taking in the beautiful scenery in a landscape that is truly unique. The Lake District will always hold a special place in our hearts as we move onto the next stage of school in Year 10.

SILVER AWARD

Wind, rain and even hail were not enough to stop this year's Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants from reaching the finish!

33 Year 10 pupils signed up for the Silver Award, spending months volunteering, keeping active and learning something new before setting off on the expedition that brought everything together. Their volunteering took them in all sorts of directions, from helping younger pupils at sports clubs and dance classes to supporting local charity shops and hospices. Others spent their skills section learning a language, improving their computer coding or perfecting a musical instrument.

For their expedition, six pupils successfully completed a three-day paddle sports expedition before the remaining pupils headed out on their walking expedition in March. The weather did its best to test every team: strong winds, heavy rain and even hail followed the teams across the route but every group crossed the finish line having supported one another every step of the way.



GOLD AWARD

19 Sixth Form students reached the highest level of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award this year, completing their Gold Award and earning the opportunity to receive their honorary certificate and medal at a Buckingham Palace Garden Party.



Alongside a year of volunteering, participants complete six months of physical activity and six months developing a new skill.

As always with a Duke of Edinburgh challenge comes an expedition! The students headed to the Lake District, spending days navigating the fells around Patterdale Hall with everything they needed carried on their backs. Despite the heavy rain and strong winds, every team kept smiling, looked after one another and made it to the finish! Their instructors were impressed with the way they tackled the expedition, and every group progressed to the next stage.

Unlike the Bronze and Silver Awards, Gold features a five-day residential where pupils are expected to enrol on a course and this year saw students engaging with acting, writing, snow sports or getting involved in environmental projects. The five-day residential also gave everyone the chance to spend time with people they had never met before, often forming lifelong friendships.



WORLD CHALLENGE - SRI LANKA

In July 2025, a group of Year 13 students took part in a life-changing World Challenge expedition to Sri Lanka. Over two unforgettable weeks, they explored stunning landscapes, experienced a new culture and worked together on an inspiring volunteer project.

Their journey began with long flights and a memorable stopover in Doha, where they discovered an indoor rainforest and sampled incredible ice cream. Once in Sri Lanka, they explored the coastal town of Negombo, visited its busy harbour and famous fish market and enjoyed their first traditional Sri Lankan rice and curry meal - delicious!

One of the biggest challenges of the trip was climbing Adam's Peak, a mountain consisting of nearly 6,000 steps through rain and steep mountain paths. Reaching the summit together was an amazing achievement and taught the students (and teachers!) the importance of teamwork and determination.

The trip also took them to Kandy, where they explored the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic and took part in a private traditional dance class. Later, the group camped in the beautiful Knuckles Mountain Range, cooking together and hiking through breathtaking scenery.

As is often the case, the most meaningful part of the expedition was the volunteering opportunity. This year the group spent their time at a local primary school and over three days the students painted, planted, mixed cement, built and improved the school grounds while building friendships with the children and community.

The trip ended with some well-earned R&R in the historic city of Galle and back in Negombo, where they reflected on an adventure filled with challenge and unforgettable memories. It was truly one of the best experiences of their lives and an opportunity all would encourage other students to consider in the future.



SCOUTING

Bolton School Scouts have returned from a successful summer camp in the Netherlands.

The week included visits to Kinderdijk and the Rijksmuseum, raft-building, a canal tour of Amsterdam, and activities such as swimming, hiking, and the annual Master Chef challenge.

Congratulations to Phoebe, Jack, Seb, Alex, Charles, Leon and Oliver on achieving their Chief Scout Gold Award!

Well done to all Scouts and leaders for an enjoyable and memorable week.



There have been a few changes at 19th Bolton this year, including a new meeting night for Paradox Explorers. Their move to Tuesday evenings has given the group a fresh start, but one thing certainly hasn't changed: the Explorers still have a big say in what they get up to.

The programme is shaped by the young people themselves, so meetings can be very different from one week to the next. During the past year, they have tackled knot tying and rope work, got creative with craft activities and even spent two hours trying to decipher Morse code, discovering along the way that it isn't technically a code at all!

The biggest adventure came during the summer, when the Explorers headed to Wales for five days. Their trip included visits to Welsh castles and a day at the Senedd in Cardiff, where they found out how elections work and how laws are passed.

Life back at camp gave everyone the chance to put some of those Scouting skills to good use. Rather than sticking to tents, the Explorers set up their own hammocks and took charge of cooking dinner each evening. They also got to know other Scout groups staying at the site, making the trip a great chance to meet new people as well as enjoy everything Wales had to offer.

There was plenty to celebrate elsewhere in 19th Bolton too. Emma, Phillipa and Marlana were among the Year 10 Scouts awarded their Chief Scout Gold Award at the end of summer camp. It is the highest award a Scout can achieve and marked a brilliant end to this stage of their Scouting journey.

CLIMBING CLUB

For many pupils, this has been the year they discovered a love of climbing. What started as a lunchtime club soon became part of the week, with girls returning again and again to see if they could reach the top of the wall.

The climbing wall has welcomed complete beginners alongside experienced climbers, with everyone encouraging each other to keep going, even when their arms had other ideas! Along the way, girls have gone on to enjoy competitions, residential trips and weekends away, taking their climbing well beyond the School wall.

With more pupils joining throughout the year, Climbing Club continues to grow and, for many, that first climb has been the start of a hobby they'll keep for years to come.

Climbing Squad

The Climbing Squad has enjoyed another successful year, travelling across the North West to take on some of the region's strongest schools. The first stop was Summit Up in Oldham where the team competed in both bouldering and top rope.

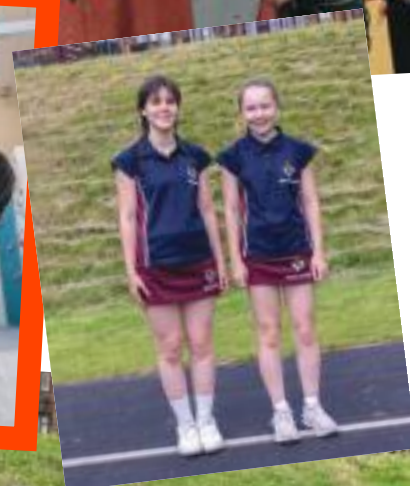
The results spoke for themselves as we celebrated four podium finishes, including a clean sweep in the Year 9 and 10 competitions, where the girls claimed first, second and third place. The Year 11-13 team also secured a place on the podium with a fantastic third place finish.

The season finished at Substation in Macclesfield, where the squad added another second place finish in a bouldering competition. Another year, another collection of medals and plenty more memories.

Climbing Team 2025/26

Anais Bird
Evie Chadwick
Nancy Holmes
Natasha Houghton
Sophie Huang

Grace Humphris
Nicole Milne
Honor Weston
Ella Wrigley



ORIENTEERING CLUB

With every outing, pupils became quicker at reading the map and spotting the best way ahead. It has been another enjoyable year for the Club, with plenty of fresh air, friendly competition and the occasional wrong turn along the way!



Saturday mornings at the Anderton Centre have become a regular fixture for the sailing team. Every session has been different, depending on the wind, the weather and the boats they were sailing, giving the girls plenty of experience before heading off to compete for Bolton School.

Emily Fox
Kiera McCann



It has been a fantastic year for Bolton School sailor Lilly Brown, whose success on the water has seen her collect an impressive list of titles while competing against some of the country's best young sailors.

Lilly's season got off to a flying start in the North West Junior Traveller Series, where victories at West Lancashire Yacht Club, Bassenthwaite, Winsford Flash and Redesmere secured her the overall title. In doing so, she also became the first girl in four years to win the series, an incredible achievement in one of the region's toughest junior competitions!

She continued that form in the ILCA Grand Prix Circuit, finishing as the highest placed Under 19 female sailor and 15th overall out of 128 competitors. It was another standout result and one that reflected just how consistently she performed throughout the season.

The summer holidays brought even more success. Lilly finished third at the Miracle National Championships in Tenby before heading to Rutland Water, where she represented her club at the ILCA Women's Regatta and won the ILCA 6 fleet! She rounded off the season by finishing as the top ILCA 4 sailor at the ILCA Northern Championships, adding yet another title to an already remarkable year.

Alongside her racing, Lilly also gained her Level 1 Race Coach and Dinghy Instructor qualifications, showing that her passion for sailing extends beyond competition. With another successful season behind her, it will be exciting to see what next year has in store.



PRESENTATION EVENING

This year's guest speaker for Girls' Division's Presentation Evening was acclaimed author and Old Girl Monica Ali (Class of 1986).

Her hugely successful debut novel *Brick Lane* was shortlisted for multiple awards following its publication in 2003 and has since been adapted into a film. Her most recent novel *Love Marriage* became an instant *Sunday Times* bestseller.

Monica's fascinating and empowering address, which followed the presentation of the GCSE and A Level certificates and School Prizes, began with a question: What is your purpose in life?

By explaining her belief that purpose isn't a treasure to find (rather than a single 'lightning bolt' moment), but a habit to practise, Monica compared purpose to a dimmer switch that can be turned up through many tiny choices over time.

Reflecting on her career as an author, Monica said: "I learned that certainty is overrated, but usefulness is a muscle you can build through repetition." Exploring what usefulness looks like for her, as a writer, she shared how her characters and books have helped her readers and said that writing isn't about self-expression but about connection.

Mrs Kyle also spoke about the many stories of hard work, resilience and triumph celebrated in the Hall that evening, highlighting extra-curricular success through outstanding sporting achievements and spectacular music and drama performances.

The programme for Presentation Evening also included a musical performance of *Vignette* by Paul Edis, performed on piano by Year 12 student Amy and the audience was invited to join in singing two hymns: *I Vow to Thee my Country* and *Jerusalem*. The School Song was sung, with the Senior Choir in fine voice as they performed the second verse.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

This year, Bolton School Girls' Division celebrated International Women's Day with Old Girl Victoria Connelly (née Bayley, Class of 2000). In 2024, she became the first British woman to win the Racing the Planet 4 Deserts Ultra-Marathon Women's Champion title. Victoria has also built a 20-year career across the pharmaceutical and technology industries and is currently a Senior Director in Global Procurement at AstraZeneca in Cambridge.

Victoria's International Women's Day address gave an inspiring recap not only of her career, but of her incredible experiences as an ultra-endurance athlete and Ironman triathlete. She looked back on her journey to joining the '4 Deserts Club': she is one of just 305 individuals to have completed the prestigious 4 Deserts ultra-marathons, covering 250km over seven days not once but four times, in some of the harshest environments on Earth.

Victoria's story of resilience, endurance and courage no doubt inspired the girls in the audience to take on challenges in their own lives, drive their personal growth and find the amazing rewards that come with being brave.

After assembly, Victoria visited PE, Geography and Biology lessons as well as meeting pupils enrolled on the Elite Athlete Programme, where she was able to spend time with students, talking more about her ultra-marathon experiences, her Geography degree and her current work with AstraZeneca.

For many pupils, the most powerful message came not from Victoria's medals or records, but from seeing an Old Girl who had pursued an ambitious path with courage and conviction. It was a memorable way to mark International Women's Day and a reminder that remarkable journeys often begin in familiar surroundings.



CURIOSITY IN THE AGE OF AI

Old Girl Professor Sue Turner, OBE (Class of 1985) returned to the Girls' Division in March to deliver this year's Platt Fisher Lecture.

Now in its fifth year, the annual lecture series welcomes inspiring alumnae back to School to share their experiences, careers and advice with current pupils.

Professor Turner's talk, titled 'The Future Belongs to the Curious: Why AI Makes Your Questions More Valuable Than Ever', was a thoughtful exploration of the impact of AI and what it means for the future and, in particular, how it will affect and be used by the young people in the audience.

As Professor in Practice for AI and Technologies at the University of Bristol Business School, Professor Turner is a recognised expert in AI governance and ethics. She founded AI Governance Limited in 2020 and works with organisations around the world to promote the responsible use of artificial intelligence. Her achievements include being named among the World's Top 100 Women in AI Ethics, helping to establish the United Nations AI Skills Coalition and receiving an OBE in 2021 for services to social justice.

Her Lecture prompted pupils to think differently about the future of artificial intelligence and the responsibilities that come with it, leaving a pause for thought on how AI continues to shape the world around us.



YEAR 7

The Art and Graphics Department at Bolton School Girls' Division has enjoyed another vibrant and productive year, filled with creativity, experimentation and artistic growth across all year groups. From foundational skills to ambitious three-dimensional and printmaking projects, our students have embraced a diverse range of artistic challenges designed to develop both technical ability and creative confidence.

In Year 7, pupils began their artistic journey by exploring the formal elements of art, including line, shape, colour, tone, texture and form. Building upon these essential skills, they went on to create imaginative Funky Flying Fish sculptures inspired by the colourful and playful work of Niki de Saint Phalle. Through constructing and decorating their three-dimensional pieces, students developed their understanding of form, pattern and colour while producing highly individual and expressive outcomes.



Joel Penkman Workshop
Beyond the classroom, students benefited from a number of enriching experiences throughout the year. In November 2025, Key Stage 4 students participated in an inspiring workshop led by artist Joel Penkman. Students gained valuable insight into her artistic processes and approaches to observation, colour and composition, while developing their own practical painting skills through a series of engaging activities.



YEAR 8

Year 8 students further developed their artistic skills through a variety of collaborative and printmaking projects. Working together, they produced large-scale animal portraits that encouraged teamwork, observation and creative problem-solving. Later in the year, students explored natural forms through lino printing, learning how to design, carve and print their own compositions inspired by plants and organic shapes. These projects allowed students to experiment with texture, pattern and repetition while gaining confidence in a new artistic process.





YEAR 9

In Year 9, students undertook increasingly sophisticated projects inspired by both contemporary artists and ceramic traditions. They created beautifully detailed under-the-sea clay tiles influenced by the work of ceramic artist Diane Martin Lublinski, exploring relief techniques, texture and glazing processes to produce decorative ceramic outcomes. Students also completed a mixed media portrait project inspired by the work of Maria Rivens, Teesha Moore, Angrette Saultou and Patrick Bremer. Through layering imagery, collage, drawing and mixed media techniques, students produced highly personal and imaginative portraits that demonstrated creativity, individuality and a growing understanding of contemporary artistic practice.



Educational Visits

Educational visits also played an important role in broadening students' artistic understanding. Year 12 students enjoyed a visit to London, where they explored a range of galleries and cultural institutions to support their studies and inspire their personal investigations. Meanwhile, Year 10 and 11 students travelled to York, where they experienced a variety of historical and artistic attractions, providing valuable contextual inspiration for their coursework and creative development.

As the academic year draws to a close, we celebrate the enthusiasm, commitment and creativity demonstrated by our students. Their achievements reflect not only the development of artistic skills but also growing confidence, resilience and individuality. We look forward to another exciting year of artistic exploration and discovery ahead.



INAUGURAL POET LAUREATE

In the autumn term of this academic year, Girls' Division was proud to introduce Year 12 student, Sofia Macari, as our Poet Laureate, a role that was designed to celebrate both the creativity and communication within our community. The Poet Laureate is responsible for writing and sharing original poems to mark important School events and occasions such as assemblies, celebrations or seasonal moments, helping to capture the mood and meaning of each in a thoughtful and imaginative way.



Sofia earned this position after winning our National Poetry Day competition in October 2025, demonstrating her exceptional talent and unique voice. As Poet Laureate, she acts as an ambassador for poetry in our School, inspiring others to appreciate and explore creative writing.

We are delighted to feature Sofia's beautifully crafted Spring poem.

The Season of Spring by Sofia Macari

The blushing blossom flower wakes up from her slumber,
Dressed in a bold and botanical number,
She rises up from her cosy cocoon,
To hear the birds sing and sway softly to their tune.

It easy to say that the memory of winter is fleeting,
When one hears the melodious sound of young lambs bleating,
The landscape is lush and our planet feels alive,
It brings a certain sense of joy to see the Earth thrive.

With the thriving of the planet comes a boost for the people,
A chance for a new beginning with our starting positions as equal,
It is a time where humanity and nature can grow together,
As well as being a time for the most wonderful weather.

We are grateful for the chance to make a positive start,
As the magic of this season engulfs our heart,
We are filled with excitement for what this season will bring,
For we have been blessed with the enchantingly beautiful season, Spring.

LIFE IS A PLAYGROUND

A Gujarati poem by Inarah Seedat has been named a winning entry in the Mother Tongue Other Tongue competition, run through Manchester Metropolitan University.

Inarah entered *Life is a Playground* after pupils heard about the competition during our Culture Week Celebration Assembly. Her poem was chosen from entries submitted by more than 30 schools, with an impressive 38 languages represented in this year's competition. Each entry was also read by at least three multilingual student judges.

For Inarah, writing in Gujarati gave her the chance to use a language that has always been part of her life.

"Gujarati is my mother tongue, and it has always been an important part of my identity and background. Growing up, I learned to express my emotions, values and thoughts through the Gujarati language at home with my family."

The judges loved the creativity and originality of *Life is a Playground*. As one of the winning poets, Inarah was asked to create a handwritten Gujarati version alongside her own illustration, which was reproduced on the front of an official competition postcard!

Inarah's brilliant achievement was a lovely way to see a language she grew up speaking celebrated through her own writing.



SPEAK OUT, LISTEN IN

This has been a brilliant year for Speak Out Listen In, with more girls than ever wanting to get involved. Sessions have been full throughout the year, with pupils from Year 7 to Year 11 working on their public speaking skills, while our Sixth Form pupils have taken on the challenge of debating!

A standout moment was in November, when our youngest ever Mace debate team headed to Holy Cross Catholic School in Chorley. Year 9 pupils Leilani Jones, Nadine Morgan and Hannah Harkin debated the motion "This House Believes Tourism is a Force for Good", while fellow Year 9 pupil Avni Shah took on the role of Chair.



In December, 40 pupils from Year 7 to Year 9 took part in the Inter School Final of the Performing Shakespeare Competition. Year 9's Darcy Swindlehurst-White and Maya McNulty, along with Year 7's Nikki Wong, represented BSGD in Round 2. Nikki and Maya impressed the judges and reached the regional final with their performance of the Nurse-Juliet duologue from *Romeo and Juliet*.

Two teams flew the flag for Bolton School in the English Speaking Union's Public Speaking Competition. One team was made up of Year 11 students Meera Salvi and Hanna Ju alongside Year 10 student Kate Wilson, while the second featured Year 9 students Isla Smith and Siena Wright with Year 11 student Harshini Mohanraj.

Meanwhile, our Sixth Form debate squad travelled to the University of Law in Manchester for the Mace competition. Year 12 students Sofia Macari, Astrid King and Anamika Vardhan proposed the motion "This House Would Ban Dating and Relationship-Based Reality TV" in the opening round.

By the time this magazine reaches you, our students will also have taken part in the very first Bolton School Girls' Division Oracy Festival. Bringing together everything that makes Speak Out Listen In such a success, the festival will showcase Shakespeare, speeches and debate, while celebrating another brilliant year of finding the confidence to stand up and be heard.



GUYS AND DOLLS

Bolton School Productions were delighted to present one of the greatest Broadway musicals of all time. *Guys and Dolls* premiered on Broadway on 24th November 1950. It ran for 1,200 performances, receiving the Tony Award for Best Musical.



When it came to casting, it was clear that, only by sharing the roles of Sarah Brown and Miss Adelaide would this production capture the extraordinary levels of skill and expertise presented by those who auditioned. At the first and third performances, Amelie Harrison played Miss Adelaide alongside Amy Lennon's Sarah Brown while at the second and fourth performances, Eleanor Holland played Sarah alongside Francesca Michie's Adelaide. Besides these four "dolls", the "guys" were marvellously led by Theo Jones in the role of Skye Masterson and Jacob Little as Nathan Detroit. Scout Taylore-Knowles and Patsy O'Leary proved an insatiable double act as Nicely-Nicely Johnson and Benny Southstreet.

While the cast delighted audiences on stage, a School band played "below decks", in the Green Room. Amy Heaton was on trumpet while both Sofia Macari and Matthew Yeung played the violin. The backstage team was managed expertly by Eleanor Lowe in the wings and by Izzy O'Neil in the light and sound box. Emily Fox deserves a special mention for, besides sharing a touching portrayal of Arvide Abernathy, she designed all the graphics for our production of *Guys and Dolls*.

When I was asked to be a member of the band for *Guys and Dolls*, I jumped at the opportunity and I am truly thankful I did. After only a few rehearsals, we were transported to the Green Room – we soon learned that we would become very familiar with this space over the coming weeks. Being directly underneath all the action on stage was certainly entertaining and adapting to the technology involved with playing live music was a fascinating learning curve for all of us. Without a doubt, the week of the show was one of the most fun experiences I have ever had and it was a privilege to perform alongside such talented actors and musicians. If I could do the show again I would in a heartbeat.

Sofia Macari - Musician

Though I have worked on shows before, *Guys and Dolls* was by far my favourite. Thank you to all of the stage crew, especially Izzy O'Neil for her lighting. I really enjoyed being able to build my confidence by learning how to handle more responsibility. These new skills supported my participation in a technical theatre course which I completed at the Palace Theatre in Manchester over the Easter holiday.

Eleanor Lowe – Stage Manager

Having being a dancer since the age of two, when I heard there were auditions for a School production, I jumped at the opportunity. Since being offered the role of leading lady, Miss Adelaide, I have met a truly lovely bunch of people with a great passion for musical theatre and even more brilliant teachers who I am forever grateful to have worked with.

Frankie Michie – Adelaide

This year, I had the honour of playing Arvide Abernathy in Bolton School's production of *Guys and Dolls*. It was an amazing production with an outstanding cast who had a massive range of talent. I was also lucky enough to be able to do the graphic design for the show, including making programmes, posters and props it was a great insight into working for a live client and gave me skills I can use as I continue with A Level Graphic Design. Learning about the technicalities of creating show posters, such as information that must be added and having certain font sizes meant I had a deeper understanding of the composition of these pieces as well as seeing how styles worked together to present the setting and style of the production.

Emily Fox – Arvide Abernathy and Graphic Designer

Mr Lovatt (Musical Director), Miss Talbot (Director) and Mrs Rigby (Choreographer)



THE GLORIOUS CHICKMANS

In December, Bolton School put on a very special Joint Production of *The Glorious Chickmans*: a newly commissioned play, written as part of the Write the Girl initiative.

The Glorious Chickmans is a comedy set once upon a time - a long, long time ago - in a faraway land. The wonderful (if ever-so-slightly weird) inhabitants of a rural idyll called the Middle of Nowhere have their sense of right and wrong challenged when Aldawig Chickman sets out to sell eggs. This has never been attempted before as it was forbidden by the elders. Clever Aldawig and her warm-hearted sister, Brinda, go on an adventure to secure a future for themselves as egg empresarios. For a time, it seems as though the invidious nature of capitalism will overwhelm the good people of Nowhere. Indeed, Aldawig and all who follow her learn many important lessons. Order is restored when Brinda helps Aldawig to understand that while "we can do it all ... we don't need to own it all".

The production was a huge success, running in the Boys' Division Great Hall from 3 to 5 December 2025.

Fifty five students in Years 7 to 13 from both Boys' and Girls' Divisions were involved in putting on *The Glorious Chickmans*. While most appeared as members of the cast, students also managed technical elements such as lighting, set and props, costume, hair and make-up. They were delighted to perform in front of large and supportive audiences.

Samuel, Year 7, played Timmy and explains, "I had an amazing time on the set of *The Glorious Chickmans* ... being cast in the play enriched

my first term at Bolton School. Being called to rehearsals was always a treat, and from the moment we started blocking the scenes, I knew I was going to have a lot of fun."

Chloe, in Year 8, played the lead role. At first, she found Aldawig to be a challenging character, but explained: "After a while I started to get the hang of it and it became quite amusing to pretend to be bossy. I made many friends during my time in the production and most I still talk to a lot, especially Olivia, who played my sister, Brinda. Nearer to the show, I hurt my ankle and struggled to walk around. I was so lucky to have the support of my peers who helped me through. They got me up and going again for the show nights, which went extremely well, if I do say so myself! I am so grateful to have been able to have this amazing experience and would definitely do it again."

Tabitha, Year 10, believes her experiences of playing Blanche will boost her chances of academic success by providing her with innovative ideas to explore in her GCSE drama devising piece. She said: "It inspired me to add comedic elements to my extract after learning how effectively they worked in our production, which would not have crossed my mind before. The play also helped my group task skills, working together as a team and incorporating others' ideas, as well as my own."

Miss Talbot (Director)



NEW HISTORY TRIPS

History and Politics has had another fantastic year, with pupils asking big questions, challenging each other's ideas and discovering that history is often far more complicated than it first appears.

The Spring Term began with the Bolton Youth MP elections and we were delighted to welcome Danielle Alalade, who returned to School to share her experience of standing as a candidate and the role of a Youth MP. Pupils then headed to the ballot box on the History corridor to cast their own votes, demonstrating democracy in action.

Pupils continued to enjoy History trips this year, to Skipton Castle (Year 7), Port Sunlight (Year 8), the Imperial War Museum North (Year 9) and Thackray Museum of Medicine (Year 11).

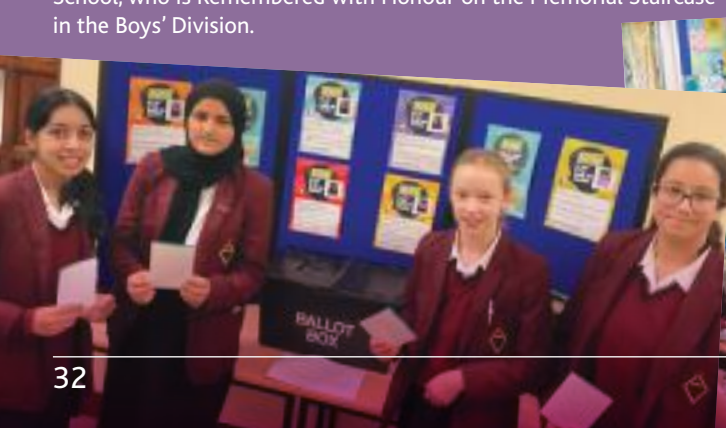
Of the trip to the IWM, Leilani Jones 9F writes: "We explored the spy craft exhibit, looking at real artefacts from the World Wars and learnt about their historical significance. We also created our own mini documentaries, explaining the deeper meaning behind different artefacts."

In Culture Club, pupils have watched and discussed a diverse set of films such as *Titanic* and *The Windermere Children*, they have researched the historical events that they depict and considered how useful films can be in depicting historical events.

Pupils from Year 9 to Year 13 also had the opportunity to be involved with the new club called 'Beyond the Headlines'. It uses resources from Parallel Histories, an educational charity that believes pupils should not shy away from contest histories and, instead, study them side by side. We explore contested topics such as the Israeli and Palestinian conflict, the Troubles in Northern Ireland, and the Cold War. Each session gives pupils the chance to examine multiple perspectives, challenge assumptions and develop their skills in argument and analysis, all while gaining a deeper understanding of the complexities '...Beyond the Headlines'.

In January we invited pupils from Canon Slade School to the Arts Centre to debate the topic of the 1948 British Mandate for Palestine through the lens of both the Israeli and Palestinian perspectives. Additionally, in April pupils also discussed the contested history of 'who is to blame for the poor relations between Iran and the USA?' with students from Dr. John Hugh Gillis High School, in Canada. We held a Zoom debate, which Bill Rammell, former Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs in the UK Government, chaired. Pupils again had the opportunity to critically analyse sources from both perspectives to gain a far greater understanding of the complexities of the relationship between the US and Iran.

Historical Association lectures this year have focussed on Bolton Museum's Egypt collection, Medieval Brittany and – most notably – the Second World War raid known as 'Operation Freshman'. The historian Dr Bruce Tocher spoke about the failed mission in 1942 to destroy a German heavy water plant in Norway (which preceded the successful 'Heroes of Telemark' raid of 1943). The earlier mission cost the life of Flight Lieutenant Donald Higson, a former pupil of Bolton School, who is Remembered with Honour on the Memorial Staircase in the Boys' Division.



FIRE, ICE AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN: AN UNFORGETTABLE ICELAND EXPEDITION

There are trips you enjoy and there are trips that stay with you long after your suitcase is unpacked and our journey to Iceland was firmly in the latter category: a four-day immersion into one of the most geologically dramatic landscapes on Earth.

Within hours of landing, we found ourselves on the rugged Reykjanes Peninsula, a place where the Earth quite literally pulls itself apart, before venturing to the steaming vents of Gunnahver with boiling mud and hissing steam reminding us that Iceland sits atop a restless volcanic system. Just a short distance away, we crossed the famous Bridge Between Continents - a symbolic (and slightly surreal) step between the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates.

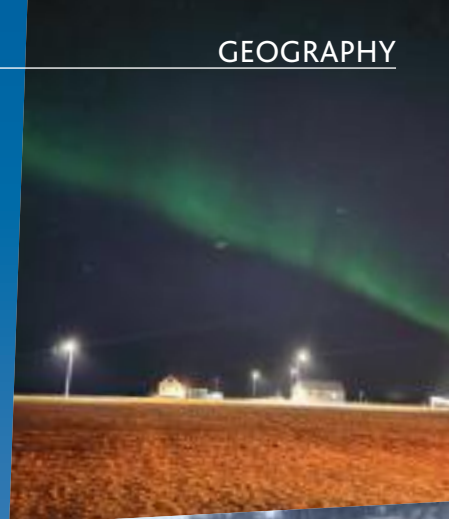
If that wasn't enough, we also caught sight of the ever-changing landscape shaped by the Fagradalsfjall Volcano, a relatively recent reminder that Iceland is still very much under construction.

Day two was a masterclass in natural extremes. We began at the Lava Centre, where interactive exhibits brought volcanic forces and tectonic movement vividly to life. From there, we travelled to the imposing Sólheimajökull Glacier and, standing before its icy expanse, it was impossible to ignore the real-world example of climate change in action. Taking a journey to the coastline near Reynisfjara Beach, which famously features jet-black sands stretched beneath towering basalt columns; Dyrhólaey showcased the relentless power of coastal erosion; Seljalandsfoss, where some of us braved the icy path behind the falls; and then the drop of Skógafoss, a true highlight of the South Shore.

Starting day three with a relaxing dip in the naturally heated waters of the Secret Lagoon, we headed out to visit the mighty Gullfoss, where glacial water plunges dramatically into a rugged canyon. A surprise was waiting for us at Friðheimar Greenhouse, where tomatoes thrive year-round thanks to geothermal energy. We then climbed the rim of the volcanic crater Kerið with its vivid red slopes contrasting beautifully with the icy blue lake below before visiting Hellisheiði Power Station, where we learned how Iceland harnesses geothermal energy for heating homes and capturing carbon emissions. Before heading back to explore Reykjavík's landmarks, we visited Þingvellir National Park, another location where tectonic plates visibly separate.

All too soon, it was time to head home. As we left Iceland behind, it was clear this trip had been far more than a sightseeing tour but an opportunity for the girls to experience geography brought to life in the most dramatic way possible.

Miss Gillibrand, Head of Geography



VISITING THE HOME OF CADBURY!

In November, A Level Business students enjoyed an exciting and informative visit to Cadbury World in Bournville. The trip provided a valuable opportunity for students to bring their classroom learning to life, exploring key areas such as business ownership, aims and objectives, competitors and stakeholder interests.

During the visit, students gained a fascinating insight into the history and development of Cadbury, including how it became part of Mondelez International. They explored how different types of business ownership operate and the impact this has on the wider market.

Students also learned about Cadbury's position within both the UK and global markets and how the company continues to remain relevant and distinctive in a competitive industry. They explored the wide range of business areas covered by Mondelez and how Cadbury works to support both its stakeholders and shareholders.

A particular highlight of the trip was discovering how Cadbury collaborates with other organisations to promote ethical business practices, while continually adapting its products to meet changing consumer expectations and government regulations.

Overall, the visit was an engaging and enriching experience, helping students to deepen their understanding of real-world business and inspiring them in their studies.

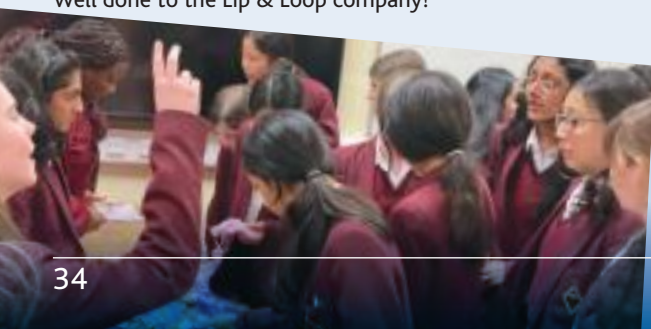


TYCOON ENTERPRISE CLUB

This year saw another successful Year 10 business, 'Lip & Loop', through the Tycoon Enterprise scheme. Having produced a detailed business plan, they received a £150 loan from the Peter Jones Foundation which they used to source their products. The group created a small bundle of gift items, including lip balm and a bracelet, which they packaged in an attractive fabric bag. Aanya Katariya, the Managing Director, reflected on her Tycoon experience:

'The Tycoon Enterprise is a fun business competition that enhances your creativity and problem-solving skills. We recommend participating in the lunchtime club in Year 10 if you are interested in business studies or just have a real passion to work together as a team. Overall, we made a £110 profit and we were extremely proud of our success!

Well done to the Lip & Loop company!



CAREERS CAROUSEL

In the Autumn Term, Year 8 pupils took part in a Careers Carousel. Six professionals from the industries of data analytics, dentistry, the armed forces, optometry, law and engineering volunteered their time to lead a workshop.

Some sessions had interactive elements where pupils got to try a small engineering task or were quizzed on their knowledge of a sector! Pupils learnt not only about what a career in these sectors may look like, but also about the skills that can help them to succeed in a wide range of areas. Thank you to all of the volunteers for leading these insightful sessions.



CAREERS FAIR

In March, the School hosted an Accounting, Finance and Law Careers Fair which was open to all pupils in Year 10 and above from our School and other high schools locally. With over 40 stalls hosted by local universities and employers in these sectors, the fair provided the opportunity for students to talk to the visitors to further their understanding of how they can enter these sectors.

A Year 10 Pupil reflected on her experiences at the fair: "It was a great experience joining with other schools to meet different businesses and companies and see just how many roles are available in the finance and law industries. Exploring these new career ideas really helped broaden our perspective and gave us a better idea of the paths we can take after finishing school in Year 13."

Thank you to Mr Hitchin for organising this partnership event and to all the businesses and universities in attendance.



CURRICULUM

This year, pupils in Years 7 to 11 have enjoyed a brand-new careers curriculum that has been delivered during form times and THRIVE sessions.

Pupils have studied across seven main strands: grow throughout life, explore possibilities, manage career, create opportunities, balance life and work, see the big picture and psychometric testing. These lessons are developed by the universal destinations platform, Unifrog, to support pupils throughout their time at School in developing their careers knowledge to help them make informed choices about their futures. All pupils have access to Unifrog where they can complete further careers research, whatever their interests may be! Students in the Sixth Form have also continued to develop their future pathways through the SCOPE curriculum. Through dedicated sessions, students have been supported with university applications, personal statements, interview preparation and student finance guidance, as well as receiving tailored advice on degree apprenticeships and alternative post-18 pathways. The programme has helped students to explore a wide range of opportunities and make informed decisions about their next steps.

WOMEN OF WORK TALKS

Women of Work is a lecture series attended by our pupils in Year 10 and Year 11.

Pupils hear from a range of Alumni to learn about the different stages of someone's career path; the skills, qualifications and experiences that have helped them to progress; and what has helped them to make the decisions that have led them to where they are today. Pupils also have a chance to engage in a Q&A session at the end of each talk to further their learning. Topics covered in this year's series have included what Life Coaching is; an insight into what it is like to work in Government Services and how to build a career in Supply Chain Management. Thank you to all of our speakers who participated in these talks!

MUSICAL ADVENTURES

With our first event of the year taking place in the first week of term, the Senior Choir and Organ Scholars had to work quickly to play their part in making Presentation Evening a fitting celebration for last year's Year 11 and Year 13 pupils. In October, four of our A Level musicians performed as part of the lunchtime concert series run at Bolton Parish Church - a fantastic performance venue and the concert series is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to develop their skills.

The first half term came to an end with the Year 7 concert, which is always full of energy and enthusiasm. Featuring songs by ABBA, form group recitals of Walt Whitman poems and performances from a range of soloists, the girls put on a great show for friends and family, showing how well they had settled into life at Bolton School.

Taking place across both Great Halls and involving over 200 pupils, the Joint Autumn Concert includes almost all the ensembles across the Girls' and Boys' Divisions. It is always a pleasure to see how much the pupils enjoy each other's performances as it marks the first opportunity in the year for most of these groups to perform for an audience.

Immediately after the concert, the preparations for Christmas accelerate as the Lower School, Senior and Chamber Choirs all work on repertoire for the Ceremony of Carols. The girls worked incredibly hard; combining beautifully to lead the congregational carols as well as performing individual items, showcasing their skill and musicality.

For the second year running, the Primary Division Orchestra Day provided the chance for experienced instrumentalists in the Girls' Division to support and mentor pupils from Beech House, Park Road and Hesketh House.

The annual Music Festival took place across two days just before half term and featured a little over 180 performances! Our Adjudicator, Carolyn Baxendale, who has recently retired as Head of Bolton Music Service, was very complimentary about the girls taking part and commented particularly on the quality of performance across the board. Carolyn awarded the prize for Most Promising Musician award to Anya Susol in Year 7 and the Outstanding Musician award to Amy Heaton in Year 13 for the second year running, a Music Festival first.

It wasn't long before the Spring Concert was upon us. Taking place at Bolton Parish Church and featuring a mixture of ensembles from both Divisions, performances included the Senior Orchestra, Senior Concert Band, Chamber Choir, GD Senior Choir, String Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Intermediate Concert Band, Drum Corps and Brass Ensemble.

Quick on the heels came the Senior Musical for 2026, *Guys and Dolls*, featuring pupils from Year 9 to Year 13. The cast were put through their paces across dance, drama and voice and collaborated with the student band fantastically well.

The May Serenade is always eagerly anticipated, although a bittersweet moment for our Year 13 pupils as they perform at School for the last time. It provides the perfect moment to say goodbye but also to thank them for their dedication to music.

With Year 11 and 13 now on study leave, the final Recital Evening of the year provides more space for pupils from other year groups to perform. The evening showcased solo performances from pupils in Year 7 to Year 12 across a range of different styles and genres.

I never fail to be amazed by the hard work and dedication the girls put into music and I am always immensely grateful to the many colleagues involved with music across Girls' Division who so willingly share their expertise and enjoyment of music also.

Mr Lovatt, Foundation Director of Music



Music Festival 2026 - Results

Class	1st	2nd	3rd	HC
Lower School Piano 1 - 4 - Class	Ria Banner	Meghna Ajith	Jennifer Irving	
Lower School Piano 1 - 4 - Class 2	Anika Shetty	Avni Patel	Jessica Haycox	
Lower School Piano 5+	Anya Susol	Emily Guo	Stephanie Li	
Lower School Musical Theatre	Beatrix Snape	Leilani Jones	Mia Kenyon	
Lower School Voice	Tullah Maher	Alivia Smith	Leilani Jones	
Lower School Brass	Charlotte Morris	Sahana Jacobs	Maisie Higginbottom	
Lower School Strings	Imogen Feng	Stephanie Li		
Lower School Percussion / Drum Kit	Stephanie Li			
Upper School Piano 1 - 5	Anjali Kishore	Ishana Wahie	Tabitha Jordan	
Upper School Piano 6+	Amy Heaton	Aimee Yeung	Emily David	
Upper School Musical Theatre	Harshini Madhu Shankar	Lucy McLoughlin	Amy Lennon	
Upper School Voice	Sophie Hurley	Tallulah Jones	Eleanor Holland	
Upper School Woodwind 1 - 5	Beatrice Morris			
Upper School Wind 6+	Amy Heaton	Aimee Yeung	Evie Done-Jackson	Poppy Silvester
Upper School Strings	Sofia Macari			
Upper School Percussion / Drum Kit	Scout Taylore-Knowles			
Novice	Emma Price			
Ensemble	Eleanor Holland Honor Weston	Dhatri Anil Hannah Chen	Lucy McLoughlin Amy Lennon Beatrix Snare Chloe Gay	
Open Mic	Amy Lennon Carmen Holt	Helen Huang		
Traditional	Sofia Macari	Dhatri Anil	Anika Shetty	
Organ	Emily David			

Outstanding Music 2026 - Amy Heaton

Most Promising Musician 2026 - Anya Susol

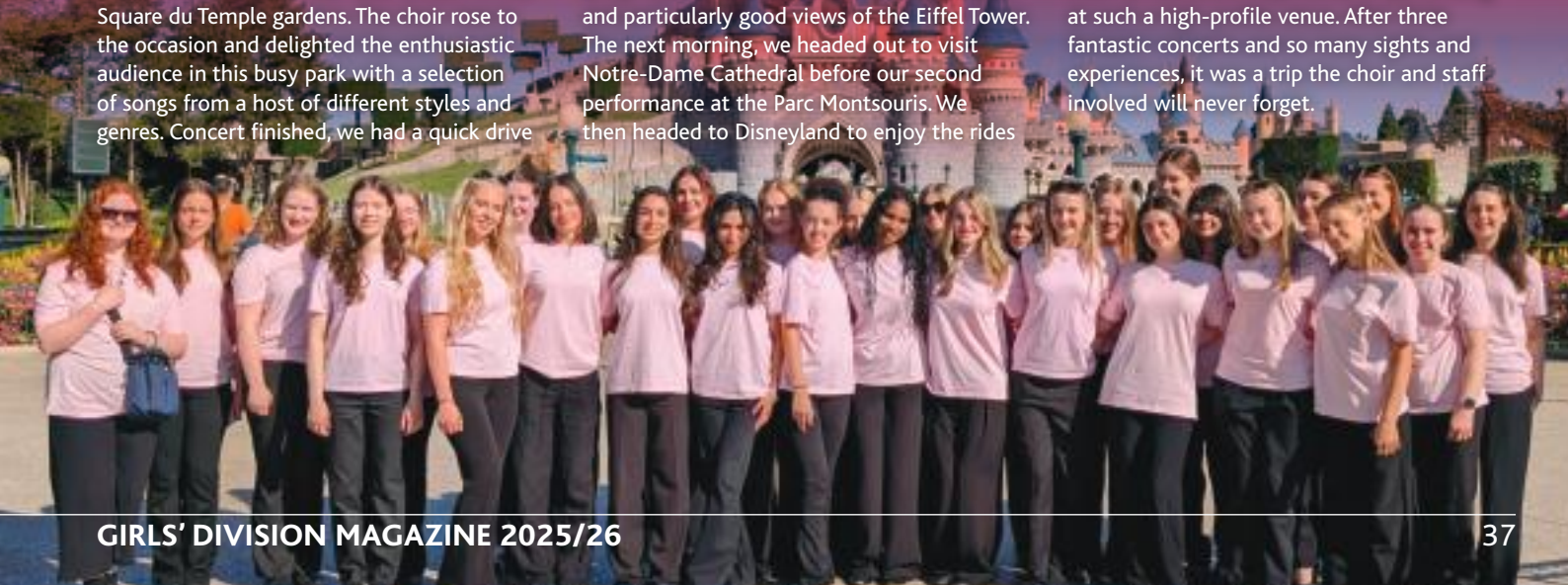
SENIOR CHOIR'S TOUR TO PARIS

After an overnight journey, 29 members of the Girls' Division Senior Choir arrived in Paris and started their trip with a visit to the top of the Montparnasse Tower. A quick trip in Europe's fastest elevator took us 56 floors up and gave us breathtaking views of the famous Paris skyline and helped us all get our bearings.

On day two we had an early start so we could visit Versailles Palace and Gardens before performing at their first concert in the Square du Temple gardens. The choir rose to the occasion and delighted the enthusiastic audience in this busy park with a selection of songs from a host of different styles and genres. Concert finished, we had a quick drive

(also known as a long crawl in Paris!) to reach our boat tour along the Seine. This gave us an up-close view of many of the major sights and particularly good views of the Eiffel Tower. The next morning, we headed out to visit Notre-Dame Cathedral before our second performance at the Parc Montsouris. We then headed to Disneyland to enjoy the rides

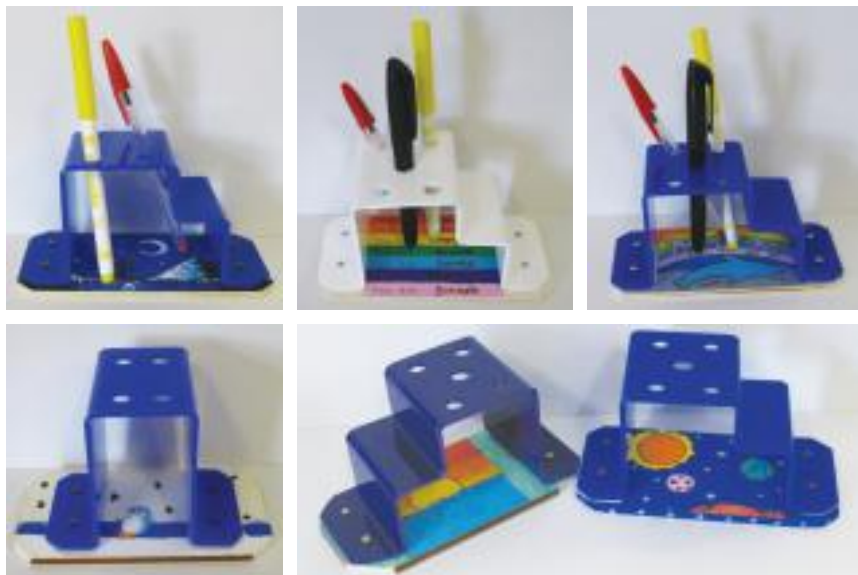
and perform the final concert in one of the professional theatres in the park, offering the choir an incredible experience of performing at such a high-profile venue. After three fantastic concerts and so many sights and experiences, it was a trip the choir and staff involved will never forget.



TIMBERS & POLYMERS

YEAR 7

Pencil stands made from acrylic and plywood with aesthetic detail based on the theme of 'natural form', involving skills in drilling, line bending and pyrography produce digital landscape images showcasing their colour blending skills and how to create atmosphere with digital brushes. Later in the year, they created naïve animal artworks inspired by Henri Rousseau, combining collage and mixed media techniques to produce vibrant, imaginative scenes that showcased their individuality and storytelling ability.



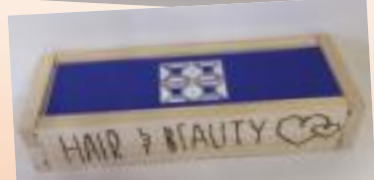
YEAR 8

'Eco night lights', involving soldering, laser cutting and vinyl cutting, based on the theme of 'promoting environmental awareness'.



YEAR 9

'Functional & Aesthetic Boxes (FAB)' involving timber joints, CAD, laser cutting and decorative work inspired by tessellating surface pattern work and Art Deco designers.



YEAR 10

Pill boxes aimed at users who take medication, involving timber joints, CAD, laser cutting and dye sublimation printing.



YEAR 10

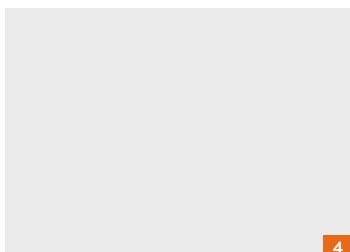
Jigsaws aimed at pre-school children in a variety of fun and colourful themes.



YEAR 11

GCSE D&T prototype in response to the exam board contextual challenge:

'Products to help in the home'



1. Samantha (Sammie) Makin

This prototype is an organically shaped step stool with storage for reaching high kitchen cupboards.

2. Fahmeedah (Fidi) Haider

This prototype is a portable, multi-purpose activity table for use whilst in bed or on a settee.

3. Maha Khan

This prototype is a storage solution for keeping belongings neat and organised.

4. Alena Livesey

This prototype is a storage solution for a user with limited reach.

5. Aminah Thagia

This prototype is a storage and work surface unit with lighting for an art work tracing feature.

6. Alinah McAllister

This prototype is a child's portable play cooking utensil kit.

7. Sianna Tamlin

This prototype is a desk tidy, designed to accommodate an iPad and stationery and including a drawer.

8. Salma Parker

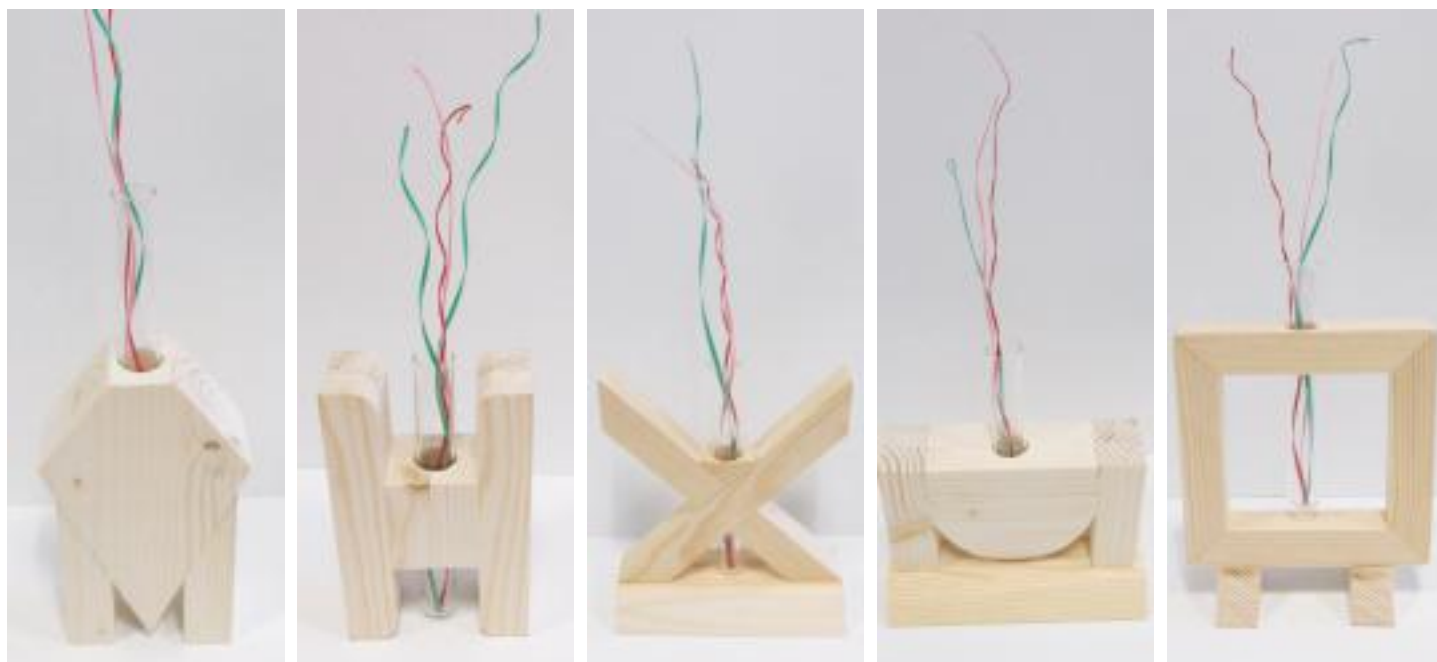
This prototype is a fun device/toy to encourage young children to eat fruit.

9. Gracie Meadows

This prototype is a chair/stepping aid for a child, including book storage and drawers.

PRODUCT DESIGN

YEAR 12



Test tube vase involving traditional timber jointing, drilling and 3D printing

YEAR 12



Small storage unit involving flexi-ply, vacuum bagging, CAD, Laser and vinyl cutting

YEAR 13

A Level prototypes:



1. Alexander Fitzsimmons



2. Davian Patel



3. Lucas Horridge

TEXTILES

YEAR 7

Cushion Inspired by India

Students learnt how to use the sewing machine and a range of decorative and constructional techniques to design and make their own cushion inspired by India.

The project incorporated the following skills: Understanding how to thread and use a sewing machine, how to complete bonded appliqué, tie dye, hand embroidery, block printing, stitching and finishing a plain seam, creating a hem.



YEAR 8

Folk Art Inspired Pencil Case



Students learnt how to develop their own motifs based on flora and fauna from Folk Art, using CAD, developing these to create a repeat print pattern. They then used their fabric to make a pencil case.

The project incorporated the following skills: Developing unique motifs using design strategies, designing a repeat print using CAD, understand sublimation printing, inserting a zip, understanding about designing for a specified target market.



YEAR 9

Sustainability

Students learnt about sustainability and made a reversible, reusable cotton canvas bag with a pocket adding in optional decoration using heat transfer vinyl.



The project incorporated the following skills:

Understanding how to create a pocket, line a bag, box a corner and design using heat transfer vinyl.

YEAR 10

Rice Bag

Students created a rice bag which is a square bag with a drawstring top. They learnt how to create a lined and quilted cube shape incorporating patchwork, screen printing and hand embroidery.



YEAR 10**Sweatshirts**

Students created a sweatshirt incorporating a CAD embroidered and/or heat transfer vinyl design, working with a knitted, bulky fabric for the first time and ribbed cuffing.

**YEAR 11****Theme 1 – Socialising**

How might we promote a social event?



Bridget Horan – Bag for a young child promoting Tinsel Town Christmas Fair.



Abigail Carr – A picnic blanket incorporating a bag to promote and encourage older adults to attend an Antiques Road Show event.



Sophie Neville – Jacket for an anxious teenager promoting a social event hosted by Sophie's Circle.



Tilly Birch – A showerproof garment to promote a local festival to entice anxious teenagers to attend.

YEAR 11

Theme 2 – Winter

How might we keep people safe at night in winter?



Isabella Critchley
– A winter hat to help keep a young child warm walking to and from school on winter days.

Isla Fox –
Outerwear for a child aged between 8 and 12 to wear walking to and from school in winter.



Zainab Fathima
– Outerwear to enable a college pupil to feel warm and comfortable walking between their accommodation and college on winter nights.



YEAR 11

Theme 3 – Eating Out

How might we keep young children entertained whilst in a restaurant?

Freya Green - Interactive book to help keep a young child entertained whilst eating out in a restaurant



Ingrid Caudill-Trafi –
Dinosaur toy with some finger puppets to help keep a child aged between two and five entertained whilst eating out in a restaurant.



FASHION & TEXTILES

YEAR 12

Japanese Inspired Structural Top - This project introduced the pupils to a wide range of decorative, constructional and CAD/CAM techniques which they were encouraged to explore, develop and model into a final design based on Japanese culture.



YEAR 13

A Level pupils developed an individual design brief in collaboration with a client before producing a fully realised prototype. This year's featured project addresses the practical challenges of festival wear, combining comfort, weather protection and innovative storage solutions within a reversible jacket.

Festival Wear - Jacket designed to solve storage and comfort issues identified when attending a festival. (reversible blue and pink waterproof jacket)



LONDON FOOD TRIP

At the start of Year 11, 25 of us travelled to London as part of our GCSE Food course. Before we went, we expected the trip to be packed with different cultures, exciting food and lots of restaurants, and it definitely didn't disappoint!

On Saturday morning, we met our guide for a walking food tour along the bustling streets of Brick Lane. We learned about the area's rich food culture and enjoyed tasting plenty along the way. Highlights included Bangladeshi chocolates, Jewish bagels, Indian desserts and delicious sourdough doughnuts.

Afterwards, we had some free time to explore Spitalfields Market, where we sampled even more food from the pop-up stalls.

One of our favourite parts of the trip was our evening meal together at Pizza Express. On Sunday, we enjoyed a walk along the Thames, taking in famous sights including Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament. Before heading home, we squeezed in some well earned shopping in Covent Garden.

It was a brilliant weekend and a great way to kick off our GCSE year.

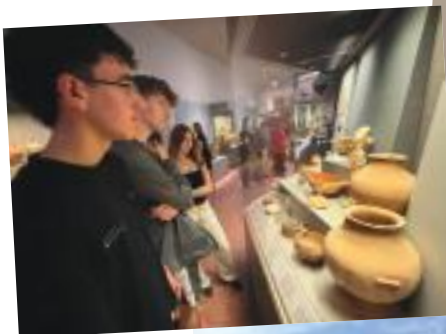
Lottie Seddon and Poppy Murgatroyd



A LEVEL TRIP TO WARWICK UNIVERSITY

Our A Level students of Classical Civilisation, Latin and Greek enjoyed a study day at Warwick University, attending lectures on the Ancient World before watching Aeschylus' *Oresteia*.

Bringing three plays together in one powerful production, it explored the aftermath of war, the experiences of displaced people and the lasting impact of domestic violence. It is certainly not an easy watch, but the themes still feel relevant thousands of years after they were first written.



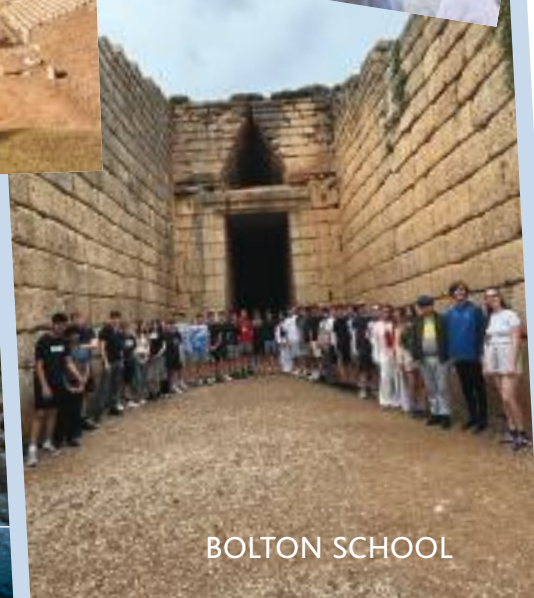
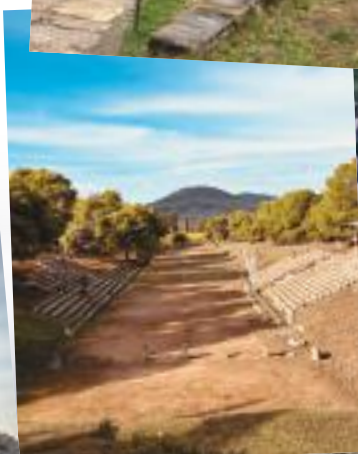
CLASSICS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

October half term saw a group of Classics students from the Girls' and Boys' Divisions head to Greece to experience the *ancient world first hand*. During a packed few days, they visited Cape Sounion, Athens, Delphi, Olympia and Tolon, with every stop offering something different.

Standing beneath the Parthenon on the Acropolis and visiting the Temple of Zeus at Olympia gave students a fascinating insight into how the ancient Greeks worshipped their gods. Some pupils couldn't resist testing themselves with a sprint in the original Olympic Stadium, while others loved stepping into the Theatre at Epidauros and imagining performances taking place there more than 2,000 years ago.

History enthusiasts enjoyed walking through the Lion Gate at Mycenae and exploring the treasures of the National Archaeological Museum, while Delphi offered a chance to take in the beautiful setting of the Sanctuary of Apollo. The pupils also got the chance to relax on the beach at Tolon, try lots of delicious Greek food, hunt for souvenirs and discover a favourite ice cream flavour.

It was an unforgettable trip, packed with memorable experiences, and we're already looking forward to the next Classics adventure!



CELEBRATING TOGETHER

There has been lots going on this year, with pupils celebrating different cultures and learning more about the faiths represented across our School. Our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Prefect, Stella Rojek, has been a big part of the year and deserves a huge thank you for everything she has done to support the events.

A CELEBRATION OF IFTAR

One special moment came with our community Iftar. Pupils and their families joined together for a special evening that has quickly become a much loved part of the school year. The Boys' Division Dining Hall was decorated with flowers and balloons, as well as 'Ramadan Mubarak' banners, creating a welcoming environment for everyone. Pupils shared readings from the Quran and stories of the Prophets before gathering for Maghrib prayer. The fast was then broken with dates and water, led by Sixth Form students, before everyone sat down together to enjoy a delicious three course meal.

LET THE COLOURS FLY!

If there was one event guaranteed to brighten up a grey afternoon, it was our Holi Colour Run. Celebrating the Hindu Festival of Colours and the arrival of spring, Boys' and Girls' Division pupils gathered on the Levels wearing white T-shirts that didn't stay white for long. Before the run began, pupils everyone learnt a little more about the meaning of Holi and why it is such an important celebration in Hindu culture.

Waiting around the course were Sixth Form volunteers armed with brightly coloured powder, ready to cover the runners in every colour imaginable as they completed four laps. Despite the drizzle, spirits stayed high and there wasn't a white T-shirt in sight!

Holi celebrations had started much earlier in the day as Boys' Division pupils and Sixth Form girls got creative in tie dye workshops led by the Art Department, while colourful decorations and Indian dishes in the Dining Halls helped bring Holi to the whole school community.

That morning, Boys' Division pupils and Sixth Form girls got creative in tie dye workshops led by the Art Department, while colourful decorations and Indian dishes in the dining halls helped bring Holi

to the whole school community. Indian dishes were available to try in the dining halls, which had been decorated for the occasion.

The celebrations didn't stop there. Our Culture Festival gave pupils another chance to enjoy food and celebrate the many cultures that make Bolton School such a special place. It was lovely to see so many getting involved and interested in what others had to share.

This Is Me Day encouraged everyone to celebrate what makes them unique and reminded us that our differences are something to be proud of.

Looking back, what made these events special wasn't just the celebrations themselves. It was seeing so many pupils getting involved and embracing the chance to experience something different. Thank you to Stella and to everyone who helped make this another brilliant year of DEIB at Bolton School.



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

2025 EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES TONGUE-TWISTER CHALLENGE

As part of our European Day of Languages celebrations, students were invited to record themselves reciting a tongue-twister in one of the twenty-four official languages of the EU, excluding English, French, German and Spanish.

Runners Up:

Hannah (9F – Lithuanian)

Isla (9F – Latvian)

Lucy (7E – Portuguese)

Maya (9E – Greek)

The overall winner was Nicole in 7E for her dramatic and flawless rendition of a Bulgarian tongue-twister!



SIXTH FORM LINGUIST EVENTS

June saw our Year 12 linguists back at Manchester University's LEAF Modern Languages Event, and it didn't disappoint. A packed programme of workshops and lectures explored where languages can take you, both at university and in the workplace. As always, everyone left with plenty of linguistic food for thought!

The trips didn't stop there. Our Sixth Form German students headed to the annual German Day, where the standout moment was hearing world-renowned author Katja Hoyer speak about life in East Germany. Meanwhile, our Year 13 linguists enjoyed a day's workshop on their A Level set text, *No et Moi*, hosted by Manchester Metropolitan University. A programme of university-style lectures and seminars gave students the opportunity to explore the novel in greater depth.

DEBATE TEAMS

In January, Year 12 and Year 13 MFL students took part in the prestigious North Schools' Modern Languages Debating Competition. With 18 schools represented across the French, German and Spanish competitions, there was lots of excitement to be counted amongst some of the top schools in the North West.

The students tackled four thought-provoking debate motions, all in their chosen language: *Don't give your child a smartphone until they're 16*, *Creativity is more important than knowledge*, *There is no point in going to university nowadays* and *You should be able to vote at 16*.

Helen Huang and Laiba Yasin represented the German team, debating passionately in both rounds while working brilliantly together throughout the day.

Representing the School in Spanish were Hannah Chipasula, Alice Nielsen and Abigail Leaper. They got off to the perfect start with a derby against the Boys' Division, winning by a convincing margin. Their second debate against Cheadle Hulme High School was a much closer affair, with the adjudicators having a really tough time deciding the winners. In the end, they narrowly missed out by just half a point.

Madeleine Eccleshare Hornby and Umme-Hani Khambalia competed in French, winning both of their debates against Cheadle Hulme High School and Altrincham Grammar School for Girls. They also missed out on a place in the final by just half a point, finishing an impressive third overall in the French competition.



YEAR 7 FRENCH MOMENTS

This year, we took part in lots of fun activities, including Francovision. Each form was given a Disney song in French and had to make a video acting it out. Our form performed *Être un homme comme vous* from *The Jungle Book*, and I played King Louis! It was so much fun because we got to dress up, sing and act. Our form also won, which was an amazing feeling.

In January, we also had a French Film Morning. We watched *Kirikou*, an animated film based on African folk stories, in French with English subtitles, which was really interesting. Afterwards, we created *Kirikou* inspired masks with the help of Mrs Crowther, The Arty Teacher. She showed us how the director had used Henri Rousseau's artwork as inspiration for the film. I was really excited when my mask was chosen as one of the winners.

These activities made learning French even more enjoyable, and we definitely improved our language skills along the way.

NORMANDY FRANCE TRIP

Our trip to Normandy was unforgettable! We got to do so many things, from baking a French baguette in the château kitchens to trying snails for the first time. Every day was something new, and we were always looking forward to what was next. We had to be organised and independent, especially as it was the first time some of us had been away from our parents.

During the day, we took part in lots of fun activities while being spoken to in French, which really helped build our confidence. The muddy obstacle course was probably the highlight for most of us, but we also loved canoeing and looking around the local market. Even after busy days, there was always something to look forward to in the evening, whether it was the French fancy dress competition, the quiz, or just spending time together.

When we got home, we had loads of stories to tell our families, along with plenty of souvenirs to remind us of an amazing week



TAPAS EVENING

Our annual Spanish tapas trip to El Rincón de Rafa in Manchester took place in December, with Sixth Form Spanish students enjoying a fantastic and festive evening together. It was a great chance to put their Spanish into practice while trying a range of traditional dishes and soaking up the atmosphere of an authentic Spanish restaurant.

This year, for the first time, students and staff from the Boys' Division also joined us. It was lovely to bring Sixth Form linguists together, with new friendships made and plenty of conversation shared over dinner. We hope it's the first of many shared events!



YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE WITH BLUE STAMP TRAVEL

Over the Easter holidays, I had the opportunity to complete work experience in Valencia with Blue Stamp Travel. During my stay, I worked at a tennis centre near the beach, coaching children who attended the tennis camp each morning. My afternoons were spent playing football on the beach, exploring Valencia and immersing myself in the local culture.



In the evenings, I returned to my host family, who prepared traditional local dishes and spoke only Spanish. It was a brilliant way to improve my language skills and experience everyday life in Spain.

My time in Valencia was invaluable. I met so many amazing people, many of whom I know will be lifelong friends. I honestly can't recommend an experience like this enough. Not only did I have an unforgettable time, but stepping so far outside my comfort zone helped me grow in ways I never expected. I came home with more confidence, stronger Spanish and a real sense of independence after navigating a new city on my own.

If you ever get the chance to do something like this, even if it feels a little nerve-racking at first, I'd definitely encourage you to go for it!

Isobel, Year 12

YEAR 9 MFL MORNING

During the first term of Year 9, the whole year group took part in an MFL morning, showing us just how fun and useful languages can be. We enjoyed two language themed activities before finishing with a talk (and a Kahoot!) led by David Binns.

Our first activity was a Q&A with a former student who had worked as an au pair in Spain. Hearing about her experiences was really inspiring and encouraged many of us to consider it as an option after finishing our education.

Next, we tackled a code-cracking challenge, where we translated two made-up languages using only a limited vocabulary bank. It was challenging, but really enjoyable.

We finished the morning with David Binns, who spoke about the many opportunities that learning a language can open up in the workplace. His talk inspired lots of us to think about taking a language at GCSE.

By the end of the morning, there was only one complaint – we all wished it had lasted longer!

Poppy Ivers 9D





INTO THE WILD

In June, Year 8 visited Walker Fold at Smithills Estate as part of the 'One Square Mile' initiative, spending the day discovering more about the wildlife and habitats right on our doorstep.

The girls tried their hand at river sampling, searched for invertebrates, carried out plant sampling using the DAFOR scale and enjoyed a guided nature walk with former pupil Russ Hedley. It was great to see everyone fully engaged, and many of the girls picked up lots of new skills along the way.

We even managed to dodge most of the rain, which made the day all the more enjoyable!

NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

In October, Year 7 and Year 8 took part in the National Spelling Bee, organised by the Royal Society of Biology. There were some incredibly quick and impressive spellers on show, with plenty of new biological terms learnt along the way!

After a closely fought competition, Eliza Ali (7C) was crowned the Year 7 winner, while Anika Shetty (8C) took the top spot in Year 8. Both girls' scores were submitted to be compared with the highest scorers from schools across the country. Although they weren't successful this time, they should be extremely proud of their performances.

Congratulations to Eliza, Anika and everyone who took part. We look forward to taking on the challenge again next year!

CHEMISTRY CHAMPS

This year saw the launch of our brand new Chemistry Champs enrichment club for GCSE pupils keen to take their learning a little further, with support from Mrs Rich and our fantastic Sixth Form mentors.

Wednesday lunchtimes quickly became a chance to get stuck into all sorts of experiments. We've investigated fizzy drinks, made our own ginger beer through fermentation, changed the properties of slime and even exploded a few pumpkins along the way!

It's been brilliant to see the excitement from the pupils, and we're already looking forward to building on its success next year.



CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

The Chemistry Department is incredibly proud of the Sixth Form's achievements in this year's Chemistry Olympiad. Although the competition is aimed at Year 13 students, many of our brave Year 12s decided to take on the challenge, with several performing well enough to earn awards.

A huge congratulations goes to the nine Year 12 students who received Bronze Awards. Special mention also goes to one of our Year 13 students, who somehow found time to complete the paper in between mock exams and came away with a fantastic Silver Award.



BOLTON SCHOOL

NEXT STOP: LANCASTER UNIVERSITY

In January, our Year 13 Chemistry students visited Lancaster University to experience life at a university campus and spend time working in its laboratories. In small groups, pupils completed a range of practical activities that built on their A Level knowledge before enjoying lunch on campus and attending a lecture exploring the role of chemistry in medical imaging.



For many students, it was a great opportunity to experience practical science at university level and get a glimpse of what could lie ahead after Sixth Form. It was a fascinating day!

MINDS UNDERGROUND SUCCESS

In Year 12, several students entered the Minds Underground National Psychology Olympiad, with some fantastic results. We were delighted that Lucy Wilson achieved a Bronze Award, while Rebecca Zavaglia was awarded Silver. Well done, girls!

Many of our Year 12 students also entered their independent research projects into the Minds Underground Global Essay Writing Competition. We are still waiting to hear the results, so fingers crossed there will be more awards to celebrate!



INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

In November, Year 13 Psychology students were delighted to welcome back Old Girl Alisha Whitehead (née Patel), who spoke about her journey in Neuroscience.

Alisha now works at the Geoffrey Jefferson Brain Research Centre, where her research has included investigating brain tumours, supporting

stroke and dementia patients, and exploring whether Parkinson's disease can be detected

through smell. It was fascinating to hear about the variety of projects she has been involved in, and students also appreciated her honest advice about careers in science. Thank you, Alisha, for taking the time to come back and inspire the next generation of psychologists!



PHYSICS

Wednesday lunchtimes in C10 have been anything but ordinary this year. Universe Club brought together pupils in Years 8 to 13 who fancied exploring some of the stranger questions Physics can throw up, with the occasional bit of Space-themed LEGO thrown in too.

Year 10 pupil Aleeza Bham said, "I liked that we got to look at questions you'd never normally get in a test, like how many strawberries it would take to stop a car or how tall the School building is. It was also nice being with girls in different year groups because everyone had different ideas. And obviously the Space LEGO was a bonus!"

A Year 12 pupil who helped lead some of the sessions added, "Universe Club has been such a fun way to spend Wednesday lunchtimes. We've talked about space and tried to work out some very random Physics questions, so it's definitely never been boring. I've also really enjoyed helping with some of the sessions and seeing everyone get involved."



VISITING PLACES OF WORSHIP

Across School our Religious Studies pupils enjoyed the opportunity to visit places of worship as part of their studies this year, helping to bring classroom learning to life with the opportunity to meet leaders across the faiths.

Year 8 pupils visited Zakariyya Jaam'e Masjid and The Bridge Church, Bolton, gaining a valuable insight into the beliefs and practices of both faiths.

Reflecting on the visit, Ava Singh and Jess Holt said:

"When we arrived at the mosque, we were amazed by its beautiful dome and minarets. We learned about the Five Pillars of Islam, visited the main prayer hall, explored the library and saw the ablutions room, where worshippers perform wudu before prayer.

The church was very different from what we expected. We learned how music plays an important role in worship, saw the baptism pool and found out about the church's work in the local community, including its pay it forward café and Moses baskets for new mothers."

In support of their GCSE studies, Year 11 pupils visited both a synagogue and a church. At the synagogue, they saw the Torah scrolls, met the Rabbi and visited the kosher kitchen, where they learned more about Jewish dietary laws. Their visit to the church was just as memorable. Alongside meeting the Vicar and learning about the significance of baptism, they even had the chance to ring the church bells, which proved to be a highlight for many!

Mrs Porter, Head of Religious Studies





YEAR 6 AND YEAR 7 TEAM UP

As part of our transition programme, Year 7 pupils welcomed Year 6 students for a Mathematics Transition Masterclass.

It didn't take long before every table was deep in discussion, comparing answers as they tackled a series of mathematical challenges together. There was lots of explaining different methods and helping each other to find solutions.

Our Year 7 pupils were brilliant throughout, encouraging the younger students and helping them feel ready for the move to Senior School.



UKMT CHALLENGES

The UKMT Maths Challenges once again proved hugely popular, with pupils across every year group putting their mathematical thinking to the test against students from schools across the country.

The Junior, Intermediate and Senior Maths Challenges are never straightforward, and this year was no exception! Pupils got stuck into a series of questions that pushed them to think outside of the box and approach problems from a different angle. Many then went on to compete in follow-on rounds, including the Pink Kangaroo and the Maths Olympiad for Girls.

It was another fantastic year of results, with an impressive collection of Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. Congratulations to everyone who took part!

GIRLS TAKE ON NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

This year, students also represented the School in both the Maths Competition for Girls and the Maths Olympiad for Girls.

Both competitions challenged pupils to tackle demanding mathematical problems that really stretched their thinking. It was fantastic to see so many girls embracing the challenge and representing the School so well.

STEM DAY MATHS COMPETITION

The Maths Department's STEM Day competition challenged pupils to put their mathematical thinking to the test. Working in teams against the clock, they took on a range of puzzles and logic problems, sharing ideas and carefully working through each challenge. The standard throughout the competition was extremely high, and it was great to see so many pupils embracing the challenge.



MATHEMATICIANS INSPIRED IN MANCHESTER

Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form students travelled to Manchester for the annual Maths Inspiration event, where they spent the day listening to mathematicians and engineers talk about the role maths plays in their work. Covering topics including cryptography, statistics and probability, the talks gave students a chance to see what they're taught used in ways they may never have considered before.

The trip was enlightening and the students represented the school superbly throughout the day!



ASTROBYTE WEEKEND

Late February saw another fantastic Astrobyte Weekend as the Physics and Computing departments headed to Patterdale Hall. It didn't take long before everyone was looking skywards and making the most of Friday evening's stargazing session. Under the expert guidance of Mr Ickringill, pupils were lucky enough to see Jupiter, the Moon and countless stars before heading inside and enjoying a traditional Patterdale evening meal to warm up between observations.

Saturday brought even more excitement! Archery was first on the agenda before pupils worked together to build their own inclinometers. These are used by astronomers to measure distances in the Universe, but ours had a rather different job. Armed with a little trigonometry and some careful measurements, pupils took them out into the Lake District and successfully calculated the height of a local summit while making the most of the spectacular scenery.

One of the real highlights of the day was seeing our Sixth Form physicists guide the younger pupils as they answered questions and introduced them to some of the Physics they will come across in future years. It was lovely to see everyone learning together!

Back at the hall, there was no shortage of things to keep everyone busy. Pupils built robots, experimented with BBC micro:bits, challenged themselves with the Turing Tumble and created binary bead bracelets before heading back outside for another evening spent exploring the night sky.

By Sunday morning, nobody wanted the weekend to end. After enjoying one final Patterdale breakfast, Mr Ickringill led his final session on constellations and how they change across the night sky. Pupils then created their own constellation canvases using fairy lights, leaving with a beautiful reminder of the weekend.

As one pupil commented:

"I especially enjoyed making things that we could take home with us as a keepsake, such as the binary bracelets and the constellation canvases."

After completing a problem-solving quiz, everyone ate their final Patterdale lunch and then made their way back onto the coach. As another pupil put it:

"I had a blast at Patterdale! ... I would love to do it all again for a third year!"

A Year 12 pupil reflected on her experience:

"Getting to use the different telescopes was definitely one of the best parts of the trip. Being able to capture our own images of planets and constellations was something I'll never forget, and it made me even more excited about physics."

One of our Year 13 pupils added:

"The Astrobyte trip gave me the chance to stargaze alongside other passionate astronomers! I'll never forget seeing Jupiter through a telescope: the details of its bands and seeing the Galilean moons was truly amazing. It was incredible to spend a weekend surrounded by like-minded physics and computing science enthusiasts. I'll never forget this trip!"

A huge thank you to all the pupils who took part for making it such an enjoyable weekend, and to our Sixth Form physicists, whose support made the trip such a success.



CAPTAINS' REPORTS

CLIMBING CAPTAIN'S REPORT

I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to be Climbing Captain this year. One of my highlights was definitely the Independent Schools Competition at Summit Up, where we had five team members finish on the podium, including all three places in the Year 9–10 Girls' competition. The whole team has worked incredibly hard this year, and I can't wait to continue in my role next year.

Honor Weston

LACROSSE CO-CAPTAINS' REPORT

Being Lacrosse Co-Captains this year has been a real privilege. Looking back, we feel really lucky to have spent so many years playing for Bolton School alongside some of our closest friends.

From Wednesday afternoon matches to long (and usually very wet!) tournament weekends, we've made so many memories together. One of our biggest highlights was finishing in the top 16 of the Championship League at National Schools. Thinking back to our first tournament as Year 10s, it's crazy to see how much we've grown as players and as a team.

We'd like to wish the team the very best of luck for next season. We hope you enjoy every minute of playing for Bolton School and make as many brilliant memories as we have.

Thank you for everything!

Lily Grace Greer and Sienna White

WATER POLO CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The 2025/26 season has been one we'll never forget.

At the start of the year, we faced the heartbreaking loss of our head coach, Andy McGinty. It was an incredibly difficult time for everyone, but the girls supported each other every step of the way. The strength, resilience and togetherness shown by every player has defined this season.

That spirit carried onto the pool. The U18 team won all of their qualifying matches before going on to finish as ESSA National runners-up after a hard-fought final. The U15 team also impressed throughout the competition and were crowned ESSA National Champions after an outstanding performance in the final.



Our U13 team have enjoyed another brilliant season, remaining unbeaten and putting themselves in a strong position as they aim to retain their ESSA title.

Looking back, this season has been about far more than results. It has shown what can be achieved when team members support one another through the toughest of times. Every player should be incredibly proud of everything they have accomplished.

Amelia Crompton

NETBALL CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Being Netball Captain this year has been a real privilege. I've loved playing alongside such a brilliant group of girls, and I know I speak for everyone when I say this has been an incredible year for our team.

Our biggest achievement was reaching the quarter-finals of the SnS Cup, where we competed against some of the top schools in the country. Finishing in the top eight was something we were all incredibly proud of.

None of this would have been possible without Miss Gibson. We all owe a huge thank you for all her commitment and dedication to the team, as well as her amazing coaching.

Good luck to our Year 13 players as they move on – you'll all be hugely missed. We're already looking forward to seeing what next season brings.

Lucy Colvin

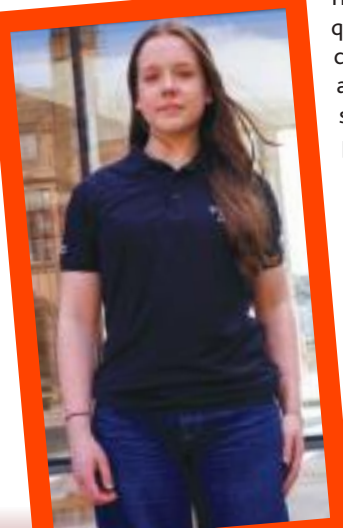


SAILING CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Being Bolton School's Sailing Team Captain, this year has been such a great experience, and I've loved every minute of it. One of the best parts has been seeing so many new members join the team and grow in confidence out on the water. It's been amazing to watch how much they've improved.

This year we've also gained new sailing qualifications and started racing competitively again, which has been a real highlight. None of our Saturday sailing sessions would have been possible without Mr Perry, who has given up so many weekends to support us. I'd also like to say a huge thank you to Geoff at the Anderton Centre for all the time, training and encouragement he's given us over the years. We all wish him the very best as he starts his next adventure.

Emily Fox



SWIMMING CO-CAPTAINS' REPORT

Being Swim Captains has been one of the highlights of our time at Bolton School. It's been about so much more than leading the team at competitions. We've loved encouraging everyone at training, celebrating personal bests and seeing teammates achieve things they didn't think were possible.

Being captain has taught us a lot too. We've learnt how important it is to support each other, communicate well and lead by example, both in and out of the pool. Most of all, we've loved being part of such a hardworking team that genuinely enjoys swimming together.

A huge thank you to Mrs Walters and Miss Atkinson for everything they do behind the scenes to organise galas and keep the team going. We'd also like to thank Mr Aspinall for making training something we all look forward to each week.

Harriet Kennedy & Holly Bromwell



HOCKEY

More than 50 pupils regularly attended Hockey Club this year, and many went on to represent the School in fixtures and tournaments. With so many girls getting involved, there has been lots of hockey played throughout the season and plenty to celebrate too!

The season began with friendly fixtures at home against Thornleigh, giving the teams their first chance to put their training into practice. The U15s got off to a particularly good start with a win in their opening game, and they carried that form straight into the Bolton Schools Tournament.

The U15s won every match at the tournament and finished the day unbeaten, earning the title of Bolton Schools Champions 2026. Amelia also delivered an outstanding performance at the tournament and was named Player of the Match!

U13 BOLTON SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS:

Samira Baki, Sahana Jacobs, Abigail Knight, Charlotte McCarren, Alice Plenderleith, Avni Shah, Bronwyn Soper and Orla Wilson.

After having their original tournament date postponed, the U14s finally got their chance to compete, and it was worth the wait! The A team went unbeaten throughout the tournament and were crowned Bolton Schools Champions. The B team battled through a very cold evening and kept going against some tough opposition. Great spirits all around!

U14 BOLTON SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS:

Ruby Roocroft, Eshana Suresh, Kate Brooks, Stephanie Li, Olivia O'Neill, Raha Bagheri and Evie O'Toole.

Year 7 also got their first taste of the Bolton Schools Tournament this season. Some of the girls had only recently started playing hockey, so it was a chance to gain match experience and put everything they had been learning into practice. We hope to see lots of them back on the pitch next season.

The girls also played fixtures further afield, with away matches at Stonyhurst and King's

Macclesfield, as well as taking part in the U13 In2 tournament at Timperley.

U15 BOLTON SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS:

Gabriella Chan, Hanna Horsfield, Ariana McKie, Amelia O'Neill, Olivia O'Neill, Ruby Roocroft, Iva So and Eshana Suresh.

Next up were the U13s, with both the A and B teams competing at Canon Slade. The A team had a fantastic tournament, winning every game and becoming Bolton Schools Champions. The U15 B team also put in some strong performances throughout the tournament. Samira was named Player of the Tournament for the A team, while Isabella received the same award for the B team after excellent performances.

A special mention must go to Amelia O'Neill, Ariana McKie and Iva So, who have given up their time each Thursday after school to help at Hockey Club. They've worked with younger pupils during training and have been a real help throughout the year. Ariana also supported the Year 8 and Year 9 Bolton Schools tournaments, helping with coaching and umpiring. Giving up their own time to support other girls has made a real difference to hockey at Bolton School, and they deserve a huge thank you for everything they've done this year!

There was more good news away from School competition too. Samira Baki and Sahana Jacobs were selected to represent the U13 age group in the NorthWest Regional Academy for Hockey. Sisters Amelia O'Neill and Olivia O'Neill, in Years 9 and 10, are also on the Greater Manchester County pathway for hockey. fantastic achievements for all four girls!

With three Bolton Schools champion teams and more than 50 pupils regularly turning

up to club sessions, it's been a great year for hockey. Most importantly, more girls are playing, gaining match experience and enjoying being part of the teams. We hope that continues next season.

SQUAD LISTS: YEAR 7 AND 8

Simran Bharath, Aarna Bheekee, Isabella Chan, Kyla Chenda-Joseph, Tanvi Halai, Evie Heald, Ruby Holker, Sahana Jacobs, Bella Johnson, Eve Kelsall, Constance Kendrick, Abigail Knight, Alice Lomas, Charlotte McCarren, Avni Patel, Alice Plenderleith, Mya Shah, Bronwen Soper, Neve Traynor, Orla Wilson

YEAR 9

Raha Bagheri, Kate Brooks, Gabriella Chan, Isabelle Donnelly, Isla Donovan, Edie Doyle, Hanna Horsfield, Stephanie Li, Naoise McCann, Samiah Mustapha, Kemi Nyang, Olivia O'Neill, Ruby Roocroft, Inarah Seedat, Eshana Suresh

YEAR 10 AND 11

Ariana McKie, Amelia O'Neill, Iva So



BOLTON SCHOOL

BADMINTON

After a solid mid-table finish last year, the Bolton School Girls' Division badminton squad stepped up to the A League this season.

Players from Years 8 to 11 trained every week and regularly took on schools across Bolton, with both the A and B squads getting plenty of match experience along the way. There were some tough fixtures against strong opposition, but the girls kept going and represented the School brilliantly throughout.

It was great to see how the squads developed over the season, as well as the support the girls showed for each other during matches. They should all be really proud of their first season competing in the A League.

BADMINTON SQUAD

YEAR 8

Roseanna Haydari, Safa Musa

YEAR 9

Raha Bagheri, Kate Brooks, Chloe Bui, Mabel Cahill, Zainab Fathima, Emily Guo, Annabel Jackson, Eshaal Khan, Anjali Kishore, Isabella Noland, Kemi Nyang, Naoise McCann, Brooke Shum, Eshana Suresh

YEAR 10

Safaa Bhajji, Anjali Kishore, Mia Zhang

YEAR 11

Dhatri Anil, Zainab Fathima

BADMINTON CLUB

YEAR 7

Mary Abadeer, Emily Aldridge, Jena Alsharbaty, Arwa Bhatia, Betsy Derbyshire, Aaminah Fazal, Maisie Higginbottom, Lois Hodgkinson, Harini Kugathas, Hannah Li, Shelia Li, Hanaa Nakedar, Aasiyah Patel, Maya Patel, Poppy Ramsbottom, Habibah Robertson, Katy Stohniy, Ayla Tareen, Georgia Waring, Nikki Wong, Lorin Xu

YEAR 8

Rumaysa Abdullah, Neili Adhikari, Mudiyansele, Maryam Ahmad, Saarah Ali, Malaka Bakeer, Charlotte Buchanan, Erin Chalk, Sare Ercan, Momina Falak, Tanvi Halai, Aisha Hussain, Sahana Jacobs, Eve Kelsall, Mukti Kerai, Rukshmani Khimani,



Frankie Longton, Tullah Maher, Vaani Malik, Sana Matak, Safa Musa, Maryam Naeem, Hattie Oneill, Frankie Ord, Aoife Riley, Anika Shetty, Parivash Taimur, Amelia Tickle, Abby Tso, Amelie Walker, Poppy White

YEAR 9

Kate Brooks, Chloe Bui, Mabel Cahill, Zainab Fathima, Emily Guo, Annabel Jackson, Eshaal Khan, Anjali Kishore, Stephanie Li, Isabella Noland, Kemi Nyang, Naoise McCann, Brooke Shum, Eshana Suresh

YEAR 10

Jess Bishop, Aanya Katariya, Evie Pursey, Paniz Rostami

YEAR 11

Freya Green, Alena Livsey, Niamh Molyneux, Alinah McAllister, Iha Shashikumar, Hanaa Sheikh

FOOTBALL

Football continued to grow in popularity this year, with busy lunchtime clubs and plenty of opportunities for the girls to represent the School in local, regional, and national competition. We were also very grateful for the continued sponsorship of Handelsbanken, which meant the teams could take to the pitch in new kit this season. The girls have worn their new tops with pride and look extremely smart on the pitch.

Our squads competed throughout the year in the Bolton Town Schools' League and tournaments, giving every age group regular fixtures.

The U12s made great progress during the season, finishing third in their tournament group and gaining plenty of match experience in the league. There's lots to look forward to with this squad next year.

The U14s enjoyed a strong season, with some excellent results in the league. They finished as runners-up in the Town Tournament after a final that couldn't have been much closer, losing by just one goal. They also reached Round 2 of the Greater Manchester Cup.

Our U15 squad, made up of Year 9 and Year 10 pupils, had a particularly busy season competing in the ISFA Cup, ISFA Shield and ESFA Cup. They reached the third round of all three competitions and produced some very competitive performances along the way.

The U16s also enjoyed an impressive run in the Greater Manchester Cup, reaching the

quarter-finals before a narrow 3–1 defeat brought their campaign to an end. They then went unbeaten in the Town Tournament, eventually finishing as runners-up on points after two draws.

It's been another busy season for football at Girls' Division, and the girls should be really proud of what they've achieved. We can't wait to see what next season brings.

YEAR 7

Nana Agyemang-Prempeh, Alice Ball, Felicity Blomerley, Eliza Bradley, Erin Branagan, Betsy Bryant, Annice Cahill, Annabel Hibbert, Holly Hutchinson, Isla Jairath, Keira McCann, Alice McGinty, Nicole Milne, Suriya Patel, Eva Patel, Anya Susol, Hurrem Subhani, Elizabeth Usher-Jerram, Raina Vara, Georgia Waring

YEAR 8

Zainab Adam, Ayaat Duffy, Maisie Godfrey, Orla Hatton, Sahana Jacobs, Eve Kelsall, Sophie Mitchell, Maryam Naeem, Pippa Nuttall, Jasmine Odukoya,



Addison O'Hare, Perfect Olabisi, Frankie Ord, Millie Scholes, Rukaiyah Suleman, Poppy White

YEAR 9

Kate Brooks, Chloe Bui, Faatimah Buksh, Mabel Cahill, Gabriella Chan, Matilda Clough, Isabelle Donnelly, Emily Guo, Elizabeth Hayhurst, Hanna Horsfield, Noor Khunda, Avril Lewis, Malia Mayoua, Kemi Nyang, Olivia O'Neill, Faatimah Patel, Siyona Patel, Tulsi Patel, Poppy Rate, Ruby Roocroft, Anna Ross, Brooke Shum, Eshana Suresh, Darcy Swindlehurst-White, Naeema Usman

YEAR 10

Evie Pursey, George Stubbs

YEAR 11

Abigail Carr, Aleeza Hassan, Bridget Horran, Alinah McAllister, Gracie Meadows, Sophie Neville, Ella Parfrey

CROSS-COUNTRY

ENGLISH SCHOOLS' ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION CROSS COUNTRY CUP – ROUND 1

Arrowe Park, 15th October 2025

For the second year running, we entered the ESAA Cross Country competition, with our season getting underway in October at the ESAA Championships at Arrowe Park. The girls ran brilliantly on the day, with several doing enough to qualify for the ESAA Regional Finals.

Qualifiers:

Freya Blomerley, Kemi Nyang, Olivia O'Neill
Beatrix Soper, Ella Wrigley

BOLTON SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY

Rivington and Blackrod High School,
5th November 2025

November also saw the girls take on the Bolton Schools' Cross Country Championships, where they performed extremely well. Several runners earned a place in the next round, with the following girls qualifying in their age groups:

Beatrix Soper – 1st
Eliza Doyle – 3rd
Florence Kenny – 10th
Amelia O'Neill – 13th

The girls had a brilliant day of racing, with their results earning them a place at the Greater Manchester Championships in January. A great achievement and another exciting race to look forward to!

ESSA NORTHWEST CROSS-COUNTRY FINALS

Sedbergh School, 12th November 2025

Five girls travelled to Sedbergh to take on a particularly tough and hilly course, with all five running brilliantly against some strong competition. A huge congratulations goes to Year 10 student Beatrix, who got off to a great start at the front of the pack and kept up the pace throughout the race. She crossed the finish line ahead of everyone else to take first place, an amazing result on such a challenging course!



GREATER MANCHESTER SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Heaton Park, 31st January 2026

There was more success at the Greater Manchester Championships, with Beatrix producing another brilliant run and finishing first for Team Bolton. Year 12 student Sasha Bartalotta also had a great race, finishing seventh in her age group. These results meant that both girls qualified for the National Championships in March, a huge achievement for them both!

ESAA NATIONAL CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday 14th March 2026

March was a huge month for Year 10 student Beatrix Soper, who represented Greater Manchester at the ESAA National Cross Country Championships. Beatrix had a brilliant race, finishing 10th in the country and earning herself a place representing England in Bangor later that month!

Year 12 student Sasha Bartalotta also qualified for the National Championships and finished within the top 100 in her age group, another fantastic result at such a high level of competition.

Beatrix's season then got even better. On Saturday 21st March, she travelled to Faenol Estate in Bangor, Wales to represent England. Competing in the mixed 4 x 1500m relay, Beatrix and her teammates raced to first place. As if winning wasn't enough, Beatrix also recorded the fastest leg of any female runner across all of the relay teams!

Finishing 10th nationally, earning an England call-up and then coming home with a first-place finish made for a pretty special end to Beatrix's cross country season. We can't wait to see where her running takes her next.

A huge well done to every girl who has represented the School in cross country this year. Hopefully we'll see even more girls pulling on their running shoes and getting involved next season!

RUNNING CLUB

Our regular runners have spent plenty of Tuesday lunchtimes lacing up their trainers and heading out for Running Club this year. The weekly sessions have helped the girls prepare for cross country, improve their running and gradually build up their fitness.



We've had a great group of girls turning up week after week and putting in the miles. It's been lovely to see how much they've improved over the year, especially as their confidence and stamina have grown.

All those lunchtime runs have paid off too, with some of our Running Club regulars going on to represent the School at cross country events this season. Seeing them put what they've worked on each week into practice at competitions has been great.

We'd love to see Running Club continue to grow next year, with our regular runners returning and hopefully some new faces coming along to give it a go too!

CROSS COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES YEAR 7

Daisy Baker, Francesca Dean, Amelia Gittins, Isla Jairath, Sophia Kennedy, Alivia Smith, Georgia Wearing

YEAR 8

Orla Hatton, Anabelle Hutchinson, Alice Lomas, Amelia Moore

YEAR 9

Freya Blomerley, Kemi Nyang, Olivia O'Neill, Ella Wrigley

YEAR 10

Florence Kenny, Amelia O'Neill, Evie Pursey, Olivia Ramirez Nieves, Beatrix Soper

YEAR 11

Eliza Doyle

YEAR 12

Sasha Bartolotta

RUNNING CLUB YEAR 7

Betsy Bryant, Rubi-Lee Garner, Amelia Gittins, Natalie Hackwell, Hawwa Hakim, Aadya Kumar, Lily McCairn, Hallie Royle, Aroush Sahab, Alivia Smith, Khadija Ugharadar, Elizabeth Usher-Jerram, Amelia Zhu

YEAR 8

Rumaysa Abdullah, Kaylani Cann-Tucker, Sare Ercan, Momina Falak, Anabelle Hutchinson, Alice Lomas, Amelia Moore, Maryam Naeem, Devya Parmar, Imogen Williams

YEAR 9

Freya Blomerley, Ruqayyah Bobat, Autumn Gibbins, Eliza Johnson, Olivia O'Neill, Ella Wrigley



NETBALL REPORT

It's been a brilliant year for netball at Bolton School, with girls across the year groups getting involved and some fantastic results to celebrate.

Our younger players are already making their mark. Year 7 students Isla Jairath and Alivia Smith were selected for the Leeds Pathway, while Amaia Onuoha and Hurrem Subhani, also in Year 7, earned places on the Manchester Thunder pathway. A great achievement so early in their time at Bolton School!

The weather wasn't always on our side this season, meaning a few fixtures sadly had to be disrupted, but there was still plenty of match play. The girls faced Manchester High School for Girls, Withington Girls' School and The King's School Macclesfield, as well as Woodhouse Grove School, who joined our fixture list for the first time this year.

Our 'Into' tournaments also returned, giving girls who might not usually play in School fixtures the chance to get on court and enjoy some competitive netball.

There was lots to celebrate in the Sisters in Sport competitions. The U19s made it all the way to the quarter-finals, starting with a brilliant first-round win against Sedbergh before another victory over Wyke Sixth Form College. Their run eventually came to an end after a close match against Wakefield.

The U12s went even further, earning themselves a place at the Sisters in Sport National Finals Day at Loughborough. Taking on some of the best teams in the country, the girls came home with a bronze medal, a huge achievement at national level.

And they weren't finished there! The U12s were also crowned County Champions after another excellent day on court at the County Tournament, rounding off a fantastic season for the squad.

Closer to home, there was more success at the Bolton Schools Tournaments. Year 11 were crowned champions after some very close matches, while Year 10 finished as runners-up. The Year 9 team also secured second place in their tournament. Bolton School continued to organise and host the tournaments this year, with the Year 7 and Year 8 competitions still to come later in the year.

We also welcomed Redden Court School to Bolton as part of their netball tour, giving both schools the chance to play against some different opposition.

There's more to look forward to as well. Nineteen girls will travel to Edinburgh at the end of November for our Netball Tour, with two competitive fixtures lined up during their time there.

With national medals, a County title and plenty of girls getting their chance on court, it's been quite a year for netball. We can't wait to see what comes next!

YEAR 7 NETBALL SQUAD

Alice Ball, Betsy Bryant, Maisie Chantry, Amelia Gittins, Isla Jairath, Aadya Kumar, Lily McCairn, Alice McGinty, Amaia Onuoha, Maya Patel, Hallie Royle, Aroush Shahab, Alexandra Shawcross, Aaminah Sidat, Emilia Simpson, Alivia Smith, Hurrem Subhani, Khadija Ugharadar

YEAR 7 NETBALL CLUB – SQUAD TRAINING

Alice Ball, Erin Branagan, Betsy Bryant, Maisie Chantry, Francesca Dean, Amelia Gittins, Isla Jairath, Aadya Kumar, Lily McCairn, Alice McGinty, Amaia Onuoha, Maya Patel, Hallie Royle, Aroush Shahab, Alexandra Shawcross, Aaminah Sidat, Emilia Simpson, Alivia Smith, Hurrem Subhani, Khadija Ugharadar

YEAR 8 NETBALL SQUAD

Malaka Bakeer, Iris Cutler, Orla Hatton, Annabelle Hutchinson, Sahana Jacobs, Bella Johnson, Abigail Knight, Alice Lomas, Frankie Longton, Tullah Maher, Charlotte McCarren, Perfect Olabisi, Izzy Owen, Avni Patel, Alice Plenderleith, Jessica Shannon, Sienna Shum, Bronwen Soper, Isabelle Tunstall

YEAR 9 NETBALL SQUAD

Mabel Cahill, Taliah Dean, Hattie Drake, Layla Jones, Meghana Laha, Stephanie Li, Tabitha McNair, Isobel Mitchell, Ganeve Notay, Evie O'Toole, Mariyah Patel, Tulsi Patel, Anna Ross, Beau Strange, Molly Wilkinson, Ella Wrigley

YEAR 10 NETBALL SQUAD

Evie Chadwick, Nancy Holmes, Isabella Hurst, Florence Kenny, Anjali Kishore, Jasmine O'Neill, Sienna Patel, Sofia Patel, Ella Perrott, Deeya Pitalia, Emily Price, Olivia Ramirez-Nievas, Boadicea Stretton Gough



YEAR 11 NETBALL SQUAD

Holly Bromwell*, Nico Howarth*, Molly Davenport, Lola Errington*, Harriet Kennedy*, Megan Kozera, Kassi Mayoua, Tilly Morris*, Sophie Neville*, Salma Parker*, Anya Pijper*, Zeest Salaman, Temilola Vickers*

SENIOR NETBALL SQUAD

Ella Clarkson+, Georgia Clarkson, Lucy Colvin, Isobel Evans, Maevel Farnworth, Lily-Grace Greer+, Nikita Luhar, Molly Neville, Isabella Shannon, Daisy Lee Strange, Carrie-Anne Warbrick

YEAR 7 CLUB FOR FUN

Noor Arif, Daisy Baker, Millie Burrill, Annie Done-Jackson, Isabella Evans, Annabel Garcia, Rubi-Lee Garner, Natalie Hackwell, Hawwa Hakim, Isobel Heap, Holly Hutchinson, Jennifer Irving, Millie Ivers, Eva Lightbrown-Burns, Kiera McCann, Lavanya Mohanraj, Bindi Naran, Darasimi Odebiyi, Suriya Patel, Liv Pyke, Celia Ross, Rumaysa Sarpanch, Gia Sharpe, Marcie Smith, Veda Taank, Ayla Tareen, Elizabeth Usher-Jerram, Raina Vara, Amelia Zhu,

YEAR 8 CLUB FOR FUN

Neili Adhikari Mudiyanse, Siena Aliu, Maryjane Atkins, Kaylani Cann-Tucker, Sare Ercan, Hibah-Fatima Ibrahim, Anika Shetty, Abby Tso, Imogen Williams

YEAR 9 CUB FOR FUN

Mabel Cahill, Stephanie Li, Naoise McCann, Amelia Satahr

+ Full colours / * Half colours



LACROSSE

It's been a busy year for lacrosse, with every age group getting plenty of match experience and some brilliant results at both regional and national level.

The Senior team took on some of the country's top schools this season, travelling as far as Fettes in Edinburgh and Berkhamsted in Hertfordshire. Their season started with a pre-season tournament at Berkhamsted, giving the newly formed squad their first chance to play together. They later headed to Edinburgh, with the girls putting in strong performances against Fettes and St George's.

At the U19A National Schools competition, the girls had a fantastic group stage, winning five of their six matches, with their only defeat coming by just one goal. That put them top of their table and through to the Championship round. The final matches didn't quite go their way, but they still finished among the top 16 schools in the country; a result to be proud of!

The U15s had a challenging season with a smaller squad, so some of our U14 players regularly stepped up to play alongside them. They came up against some strong opposition throughout the year, finishing fourth out of six teams at the Northern Schools Tournament.

The U14s also had a big year, travelling to Aldershot to compete at the National Schools Tournament. Their pool stage was incredibly close, with several matches lost by just one goal, but they secured a place in the Division 1 top 16.

That's when things really started to go their way. A 5-3 win against Godolphin School was followed by a brilliant 6-0 victory over Sherborne Girls, putting them into the semi-finals. Their run eventually came to an end against St Swithun's School, but even that went right down to the wire, finishing 3-2. Making the final four of their division was a fantastic achievement!

The U13s had a season to remember too, winning almost all of their fixtures. They saved plenty for the Northern Schools Tournament, going through the entire competition without losing a match and coming home as Northern Schools Champions!

For many of the U12s, this was their first year playing lacrosse, so there was lots to learn. With every match, they gained more experience and became more confident on the pitch. Some girls have enjoyed it so much that they've now started playing at local clubs too, which is great news for next season.

The success didn't stop with School matches either. Many of our pupils trialled for County



Lacrosse this year, with girls selected to represent their county at U18, U15 and U13 level.

With every age group getting involved and some fantastic results to celebrate, the girls should be very proud of their season.

The following girls were selected:

LANCASHIRE U13 A

Annabelle Hutchinson, Jessica Shannon, Bronwen Soper, Erin Chalk, Celia Ross

LANCASHIRE U13 B

Orla Wilson, Isabella Naughton, Imogen Williams

LANCASHIRE U15 A

Hattie Drake, Tabitha McNair, Bea Soper

LANCASHIRE U15 B

Isabella Hurst, Ruby Roocroft, Fleur Oxley-Harrison, Beau Strange, Layla Jones

SUPER COUNTIES NORTH U15S

Taliah Dean, Hattie Drake, Tabitha McNair, Bea Soper

LANCASHIRE U18 A

Hannah Faulkner, Scarlett Bowie, Lily-Grace Greer (Captain), Bella Shannon, Sienna White

LANCASHIRE U18 B

Lucy Colvin, Elise Brown (Captain), Hattie Drake, Tabitha McNair, Daisy-Lee Strange, Tilly Morris, Layla Jones

SUPER COUNTIES NORTH U18S

Scarlett Bowie, Lily-Grace Greer, Hannah Faulkner, Bella Shannon, Sienna White

ENGLAND ASPIRE PROGRAMME

The Aspire Athlete Development Programme supports talented young lacrosse players in progressing towards national level, providing high-quality coaching and holistic development, including fitness, skills, and performance support, as part of a pathway to the national team.

A big well done to our current students involved in this programme: Taliah Dean, Hattie Drake, Tabitha McNair and Anna Ross.

ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND NATIONAL LACROSSE ACADEMIES

Congratulations to Lily-Grace Greer for her ongoing involvement with the England National Lacrosse Academy, where she continues to develop her skills and compete alongside some of the country's top lacrosse players.



Well done also to Scarlett Bowie and Hannah Faulkner for their continued participation in the Scotland National Lacrosse Academy, giving them the chance to train and play with the nation's leading lacrosse athletes.

All three girls were selected to represent their countries at the Home Internationals, held at Lilleshall Hall National Sports Centre in April; an excellent achievement in representing their country!

LACROSSE SQUAD LISTS 2025-2026

SENIOR SQUAD

Scarlett Bowie, Elise Brown +, Ella Clarkson +, Lucy Colvin, Lola Errington, Hannah Faulkner +, Tia Fitzgerald +, Lily-Grace Greer (Captain) +, Nico Howarth, Eva Hurst +, Umme-Hani Khambalia +, Phoebe Masheter, Tilly Morris, Roma Sanotra, Bella Shannon, Daisy-Lee Strange, Carrie-Anne Warbrick, Sienna White (Captain) +, Chloe Zhang +,

+ Full colours / * Half colours

U15

Isabella Hurst, Tallulah Jones, Beatrix Soper

U14

Taliah Dean, Hattie Drake, Autumn Gibbins, Layla Jones, Tabitha McNair, Olivia O'Neill, Fleur Oxley-Harrison, Mariyah Patel, Imogen Quint, Ruby Roocroft, Anna Ross, Beau Strange, Ella Wrigley

U13

Zainab Adam, Samira Baki, Erin Chalk, Isabella Chan, Orla Hatton, Annabelle Hutchinson, Frankie Longton, Charlotte McCarren, Isabella Naughton, Ivy Nuttall, Izzy Owen, Aoife Riley, Jessica Shannon, Sienna Shum, Bronwen Soper, Imogen Williams, Orla Wilson

U12

Jena Alsharbaty, Jessica Carter, Maisie Chantry, Sophia Culf, Francesca Dean, Elsie Fisher, Sophia Fox, Amelia Gittins, Millie Ivers, Sheila Li, Keira McCann, Aine O'Sullivan, Maya Patel, Poppy Ramsbottom, Celia Ross, Hallie Royle, Shankary Sanmugathan, Gia Sharpe, Emilia Simpson, Alivia Smith, Ayla Tareen, Khadija Ugharadar, Amelia Zhu



BOLTON SCHOOL

ARCHERY

Year 8 pupils got their first taste of archery through dedicated sessions in PE, learning the basics and having a go at hitting the target for themselves. They also had another chance to practise during their residential visits to Patterdale Hall.

For those who wanted to keep going, the lunchtime Archery Club became a popular choice. It took plenty of concentration and patience to get it right, and pupils had the chance to keep practising and see their accuracy improve over time.

A big thank you to Mr Ickringill for giving up his lunchtimes to run the club each week and giving pupils the chance to keep developing their archery skills.

YEAR 8

Astrid Ajibade, Safaa Ally, Jaydeep Banga, Ria Banner, Safiyyah Choksi, Millie Fraine, Caroline He, Aminah Khan, Hawa-Noor Khan, Inaaya Khawaja, Vaani Malik, Bella Maryon, Parivash Taimur, Mali Thomas

YEAR 9

Autumn Gibbins, Imogen Quint



YEAR 11

Hanna Ju

RUGBY

Rugby found its feet at Girls' Division this year, with a more structured club taking shape under the guidance of Miss Atkinson.

There weren't any competitive fixtures this season, but that gave the girls plenty of time to get to grips with the game and learn the basics. Each week they worked on new skills and gradually became more confident, while getting used to playing together as a team.

The girls have really enjoyed giving rugby a go this year, and it's been great to see their confidence build as the sessions have gone on. With plenty of enthusiasm already there,

we're hoping the club will continue to grow next year, and perhaps we'll see the girls putting those new skills to the test in their first fixtures!

RUGBY CLUB

YEAR 7

Aine O'Sullivan, Temperance Sharples

YEAR 9

Eloise Ryder, Rosalind Turner

YEAR 10

Bella Heywood



DANCE

This year saw the launch of our new Dance Club, which quickly found a regular group of girls keen to spend their Thursday lunchtimes dancing together.

Throughout the year, the girls tried different styles including lyrical and street dance. Some weeks they learned a routine together, while other sessions gave them the chance to come up with choreography of their own. It was fantastic to see the group becoming more confident as the year went on and putting their own ideas into the routines.

March brought their biggest challenge when the group began preparing for the Dance Festival. Twelve girls who had regularly attended the club were chosen to represent the School at the Albert Halls with a street dance routine they had been working hard to perfect.

After rehearsing during the day, it was finally time to perform in front of a live audience that evening. The girls did a brilliant job and should be really proud of how they handled such a big performance, especially in the club's very first year.

We're hoping Dance Club will be back next year, with more events to look forward to and even the possibility of our own School dance show!

DANCE SQUAD 2025-2026

Freya Blomerley, Kate Brooks, Lucy Byrom, Leilani Jones, Nadine Morgan, Siyona Patel, Andrea Ryder, Grace Shawcross, Grace Stead, Darcy Swindlehurst-White, Emma Tran, Naeema Usman, Mia Zhang



SWIMMING

It's been a busy season for the swimming squad, with plenty of chances for the girls to compete in different events throughout the year.

The Year 8 swimmers have been a real strength in the Junior squad this season, using their experience to set a great example for the younger girls. It's also been lovely to see our new Year 7 swimmers settle into the team so quickly and get stuck into competitive swimming. With both year groups already showing so much promise, the Junior squad is looking really strong for next season.

The team also enjoyed some great results during the season, with wins against Bury Grammar School, Stonyhurst and Ripley St Thomas. Swimmers from across the year groups all played their part, and the different fixtures gave the girls plenty of chances to race in new formats and against different opposition.

There was lots to celebrate at the Town Swimming Championships, where eight schools went head to head. Our Junior girls, Lucy Clarke, Daphne Jones Kelly, Alice Lomas, Pippa Nuttall, Izzy Owen, Aoife Riley, Darcey Tomlinson and Isabelle Tunstall, had a brilliant day and finished first overall, while both the Intermediate and Senior girls' teams secured second place overall.

The Senior girls also gave us another reason to celebrate. Holly Bromwell, Amelia Crompton, Nandini Kapoor and Harriet Kennedy took first place in the 4 x 25m freestyle relay and managed to break the existing record at the same time!

Back in the pool, Mr Aspinall and Miss Atkinson have kept training challenging but enjoyable,

helping the girls work on their technique and prepare for races. It's also been lovely to see the swimmers supporting each other throughout the season, particularly at galas when those extra words of encouragement really matter.

A special mention goes to our Swimming Captains, Holly Bromwell and Harriet Kennedy, who have done a fantastic job at leading this year. As well as competing themselves, they've helped organise the team at galas and supported the younger swimmers throughout the season.

There have been some brilliant individual achievements too. Daphne Jones Kelly (Year 7), Pippa Nuttall (Year 8), Izzy Owen (Year 8) and Aimee Yeung (Year 10) all achieved Lancashire County times this season. Alice Lomas (Year 8) and Layla Jones (Year 9) went even further, achieving both Lancashire County and North West Regional times.

With some brilliant team results and a new relay record to celebrate, it's been a great year for our swimmers. Congratulations to everyone who has represented the School in the pool!

SWIMMING SQUAD

YEAR 7

Jena Alsharbaty, Lucy Clarke, Isabel Connor, Isabella Evans, Imogen Feng, Jennifer Irving, Anaaya Jaidka, Daphne Jones Kelly, Sheila Li, Kiera McCann, Charlotte Morris

YEAR 8

Astrid Ajibade, Jaydeep Banga, Evie Heald, Mukti Kerai, Inaaya Khawaja, Sanam Mahdavi, Bella Naughton, Maariyah Patel (8E), Dhyana Samji, April Shi, Neve Traynor

YEAR 9

Safa Badat, Haniyah Cheema, Edie Doyle, Hannah Harkin, Eliza Johnson, Ava Lafferty, Olivia Oneill, Imogen Quint, Eloise Ryder, Pippa Seddon, Isla Smith, Anna Taylor-Beardsworth, Batool Zahra



YEAR 8

Alice Lomas, Pippa Nuttall, Izzy Owen, Aoife Riley, Amelia Tickle, Darcey Tomlinson, Isabelle Tunstall, Orla Wilson

YEAR 9

Eva Furness, Poppy Ivers, Layla Jones, Rosalind Turner

YEAR 10

Edith Johnstone, Beatrice Morris, Georgia Rostron, Florence Salt, Grace Shawcross

YEAR 11

Holly Bromwell*, Evie Done-Jackson*, Eliza Doyle, Harriet Kennedy*, Megan Woods*



TABLE TENNIS

This year has been a fantastic one for Table Tennis at Bolton School, with strong participation and enthusiasm.

The club has run weekly sessions on Wednesdays for Year 8 and Thursdays for Year 9, providing students with regular opportunities to develop their skills and enjoyment of the game. Sessions have focused on building core skills such as serving and rallying, while also helping students to develop confidence in their ability to play independently. Many are now well prepared to play in their own time, whether recreationally with friends or in more competitive settings. A sincere thank you goes to Mrs Power and Mrs Thornborough who have dedicated their time and effort to running the club this year. Their commitment has been instrumental in making the sessions enjoyable for all involved.

YEAR 8

Astrid Ajibade, Jaydeep Banga, Evie Heald, Mukti Kerai, Inaaya Khawaja, Sanam Mahdavi, Bella Naughton, Maariyah Patel (8E), Dhyana Samji, April Shi, Neve Traynor

YEAR 9

Safa Badat, Haniyah Cheema, Edie Doyle, Hannah Harkin, Eliza Johnson, Ava Lafferty, Olivia Oneill, Imogen Quint, Eloise Ryder, Pippa Seddon, Isla Smith, Anna Taylor-Beardsworth, Batool Zahra



WATER POLO

It's been another big year for water polo at Bolton School, with national success across the age groups and plenty happening both in and out of the pool.

The U12s have made great progress this season. They've trained regularly throughout the year and it has been lovely to see their confidence grow as they've become more familiar with the game.

The U13s have had an incredible season and remain unbeaten to date. They qualified for the girls' National Finals after a brilliant run of performances and have been just as impressive in the mixed competition. Taking on boys' teams, including Bolton School Boys' Division, they won every match and qualified as first seed for the National Championship semi-finals.

The team also headed to Malta over the Easter break for a training camp, giving them the chance to spend more time in the pool together and prepare for the final stages of both competitions.

There was even more to celebrate for the U15s, who were crowned ESSA National Champions. After making their way through the earlier rounds, they faced Allyn's in the national final. It was a physical and demanding contest, but the girls kept their composure and came away with the win and the national title!

The U18s came incredibly close to adding another national title. They reached the final against a strong Notting Hill and Ealing High School side and, after a very close game, finished as national runners-up, taking home silver medals. The squad will next turn their attention to a five-day tour of Barcelona during the October half term.

There has been some fantastic individual success too. Zara Caswell was selected for both the Great Britain U18 squad and the Welsh Senior Ladies squad. Old Girls Lucy Blenkinship and Harriet Dickens also represented Great Britain at the European Championships, helping the team to a ninth-place finish.

Our girls have also represented clubs at regional and national level, with some even competing in European club competition. Back at School, fixtures against Manchester High School for Girls, Bolton School Boys' Division, St Ambrose and Manchester Grammar School have kept the teams busy. The girls have also tested themselves against club sides including City of Manchester, City of Liverpool and Radcliffe.

There was still more water polo to come, with the U13 and U15 teams taking part in tournaments at the Jason Kenny Centre during the Summer Term.

The senior players have played an important part in supporting the younger teams this year too, regularly giving up their time to help with training. Amelia Crompton deserves a special mention for captaining the U18 team and helping to coach younger pupils. She has even stepped in to support the Year 7 boys' team.

Finally, a huge thank you to Mrs James for the countless hours she puts into organising fixtures, competitions and tours, and to Mr Brown and Mr Teasdale for giving up so much of their time to coach training sessions and games.

Congratulations to everyone who has played their part in another fantastic year for water polo.

YEAR 7

Lucy Clarke, Annie Done-Jackson, Imogen Feng, Rubi Garner, Jennifer Irving, Mia Kenyon, Mila Mawdsley, Keira McCann, Charlotte Morris, Darasimi Odebiyi, Amaia Onuoha, Hallie Royle, Aaminah Sidat, Alivia Smith

YEAR 8

Charlotte Buchanan, Iris Cutler, Tanvi Halai, Bella Johnson, Frankie Longton, Izzy Owen, Aoife Riley, Jessica Shannon, Sienna Shum, Amelia Tickle, Darcey Tomlinson, Isabelle Tunstall, Orla Wilson

YEAR 9

Taliah Dean, Naoise McCann, Siyona Patel, Grace Stead, Beau Strange, Rosalind Turner, Molly Wilkinson

YEAR 10

Edith Johnstone, Olivia Ramirez Nieves, Florence Salt, Grace Shawcross

YEAR 11

Holly Bromwell*, Molly Davenport*, Harriet Kennedy*, Clara Logan*, Sianna Tamlin

YEAR 12

Hanisa Becic, Sonal Ladha, Amy Houghton

YEAR 13

Amelia Crompton +



WATER POLO GIRLS

U12s

It has been a pleasure to see the progress made by the U12s this season. The team has trained consistently and shown excellent commitment, with clear improvements in both skill level and understanding of the game.

A particular strength of the programme continues to be the support provided by senior players across training sessions. Their willingness to give their time to assist with coaching younger pupils has been invaluable, providing role models, helping to develop confidence, and strengthening the culture of the programme.

The U12s have enjoyed a range of friendly fixtures this season against Manchester High School for Girls, Bolton School Boys' Division, St Ambrose and Manchester Grammar School. They have also had further opportunities to compete in tournaments at the Jason Kenny Centre during the Summer Term against local clubs and schools, and enjoyed a day trip to London to participate in a prestigious invitational competition at Haberdashers' Aske's School.

U13s

The U13s have enjoyed an exceptional season, culminating in one of the most remarkable achievements in the history of Bolton School water polo.

In the girls' competition, the team successfully defended their ESSA Junior Female Championship title, becoming U13 girls' national champions for only the third time in the School's history. They were dominant throughout the finals, winning all four matches, scoring 40 goals and conceding only two. In the knockout stages, they defeated Notting Hill & Ealing 13–2 in the semi-final before beating Colfe's School 7–0 in the final.

The following day, the same squad made history again by winning the ESSA Junior Mixed Championship. This was an unprecedented achievement, as they became the first all-female team ever to qualify for the National Finals of either the boys' / mixed Plate or Championship competition. Competing against boys' and mixed teams, they beat KCS Wimbledon and Haberdashers' Boys in the group stage, defeated Eltham College in the semi-final, and then overcame Dulwich College 5–0 in the final.

This completed a historic double for the squad and reflected the players' talent, resilience, teamwork and commitment over the past two years. Congratulations to all the players involved, and particular thanks to Mr Brown and Mrs James for their outstanding coaching, organisation and support throughout the season.

U15s

The U15s enjoyed a superb season and were crowned ESSA National Champions following an outstanding campaign.

After progressing confidently through the earlier rounds of the competition, the team produced a series of composed and effective performances at the national finals to reach the final against Alleyn's. In what was a physical and demanding contest, they maintained control throughout and showed excellent discipline, composure and determination to secure a deserved victory.

This was only the third time that Bolton School has won the U15 ESSA National title, making it a significant achievement for the programme. It was made even more impressive by the age profile of the squad, with a large number of Year 8 and Year 9 players contributing alongside a smaller group of Year 10s. The quality of their performances, and the manner in which they competed, demonstrated the considerable potential within the group.

U18s

The U18s also delivered an outstanding campaign, finishing as national runners-up in the ESSA National Championship.

The team progressed through the earlier stages of the competition with confidence and control, producing a consistently high level of performance throughout the finals. They scored freely, defended well, and demonstrated marked improvement from the previous season. In the final, they faced a very strong Notting Hill & Ealing High School side in a closely contested match and narrowly missed out on the title.

Although disappointed not to win the final, the team should be very proud of their progress over the last 12 months. They approached the final as a team capable of winning it, and their performances across the competition were among the strongest produced by any of our teams this year.

PROGRAMME SUCCESS

Beyond school competition, the programme has continued to enjoy success at club, regional and international level.

Zara Caswell was selected for the Great Britain U18 squad and the Wales U18 squad. A number of younger pupils were selected for the Prince of Wales Cup, which brings together the top 60 girls in Great Britain born in 2012, while Bolton School pupils continue to be strongly represented within the North West Talent Centre pathway.

There was also success at the U14 Inter-Regional Championships, where Aoife Riley, Naoise McCann, Sienna Shum, Darcey Tomlinson, Taliah Dean, Izzy Owen, Siyona Patel and Charlotte Buchanan helped the North West win the title. Izzy Owen also finished as the competition's top goalscorer.

At club level, Olivia Ramirez Nieves won gold with City of Liverpool at the U15 National Age Group Championships. Sianna Tamlin, Holly Bromwell and Olivia Ramirez Nieves won silver medals with City of Liverpool in the U17 National Age Group Championships and bronze medals in the U19 National Age Group Championships. Sonal Ladha, Amy Houghton, Hanisa Becic and Amelia Crompton were also part of the City of Manchester Senior Ladies squad that won the National Club Championships, while Sianna Tamlin and Holly Bromwell helped Liverpool Liverbirds win the National Conference Water Polo League Women's Championship 1.

Congratulations to all players involved on a remarkable season. The achievements of our teams this year reflect not only the strength and depth of water polo at Bolton School, but also the commitment, resilience and team spirit shown by the pupils throughout the programme.

Mr Teasdale

+ Full colours / * Half colours



SUMMER SPORTS

IMPROVERS SWIMMING

It's been a busy year for Improvers Swimming, with Year 7 pupils spending their sessions building their swimming ability and, importantly, becoming more confident in the water.

With Mr Aspinall and Miss Atkinson there to guide them, the girls have worked on their technique and gradually built on what they could already do. Everyone started the year at a different level, so the sessions gave pupils the chance to work at their own pace and concentrate on the areas they found more difficult.

The girls have worked hard throughout the year, even when things haven't quite gone right first time. They've also been really supportive of each other, encouraging their teammates and celebrating when someone finally mastered something they'd been working towards.

Some of the biggest changes have been seen in pupils who started the year lacking the confidence to swim a full length of the pool. Over time, they have pushed themselves to go that little bit further and become much more comfortable in the water. For some, achieving that full length has been a big moment and something they may not have imagined doing at the beginning of the year.

It's been lovely to see that progress over the year, and every girl involved should be proud of what she can now do in the pool.

YEAR 7

Mollie Hampson, Darasimi Odebiyi, Emma Price, Temperance Sharples, Katy Stohniy, Ayla Tareen, Rosie Taylor, Nikki Wong



TRACK AND FIELD CUP COMPETITION 2025

May saw the start of the athletics season, with our Junior Girls from Years 7 and 8 and Intermediate Girls from Years 9 and 10 heading to the Greater Manchester round of the English Schools Track and Field Cup.

The standard at the finals was incredibly high, but the girls more than held their own. The Juniors finished 10th overall, with Addison O'Hare and Ella Wrigley both running strongly in the 1500m and adding valuable points to the team total. The Intermediates finished 9th, with Isobel Plano and Abigail Carr impressing in the 300m. Olivia Ramirez Nieves also had a brilliant run in the 800m, while Amelia produced a strong result in the discus.

Beatrix Soper had an especially impressive day, scoring a huge 32 points in the 1500m!

YEARS 7 AND 8 BOLTON TOWN ATHLETICS COMPETITION

In June, our Years 7 and 8 teams joined athletes from 18 other schools across Bolton for the Bolton Schools Athletics Town Championships.

Addison O'Hare raced to first place in the 800m, while Sahana Jacobs had a fantastic day, winning both the 200m and Long Jump.

Year 8 did fantastic and finished fifth overall, while Year 7 finished first overall and were crowned Bolton Town Athletics Champions!

YEARS 9 AND 10 BOLTON TOWN ATHLETICS COMPETITION

Years 9 and 10 were next to take on the Town Championships, putting the experience they'd

gained from the Track and Field Cup to good use.

Year 9 had a brilliant day and finished first overall to become Town Champions, while Year 10 secured third place.

There were plenty of individual wins along the way. Amelia O'Neill won the discus and 100m, while Isobel Plano won the 300m and broke the Town record.

Beatrix Soper won both the 800m and 1500m, but it was her 1500m result that made the day extra special. She broke a Town record that had stood for more than 30 years. Not a bad way to finish a race!

There was more success when Olivia Ramirez Nieves, Amelia O'Neill, Isobel Plano and Florence Kenny won the relay, while Lottie Seddon took first place in the high jump for Year 10.

Two Town Champion year groups, two Town records broken and a place at the English Schools Championships made this a pretty special athletics season for the girls!

YEAR 7

Samira Baki, Isabella Chan, Orla Hatton, Evie Heald, Annabelle Hutchinson, Sahana Jacobs, Constance Kendrick, Charlotte McCarren, Mia McNulty, Maryam Naeem, Perfect Olabisi, Izzy Owen, Avni Patel, Alice Plenderleith, Mya Shah,

Jessica Shannon, Sienna Shum, Bronwen Soper, Mali Thomas, Darcey Tomlinson, Orla Wilson

YEAR 8

Raha Bagheri, Lauren Brodie, Kate Brooks, Chloe Bui, Simar Chandhok, Hanna Horsfield, Tabitha McNair, Samiah Mustapha, Kemi Nyang, Olivia O'Neill, Tulsi Patel, Brooke Shum, Beau Strange, Rosalind Turner, Ella Wrigley

YEAR 9

Jessica Burns, Willow Greer, Nancy Holmes, Isobel Plano, Edith Johnstone, Tallulah Jones, Florence Kenny, Amelia O'Neill, Jasmine O'Neill, Sienna Patel, Emily Price, Olivia Ramirez, Georgia Rostron, Iva So, Beatrix Soper

YEAR 10

Abigail Carr, Ariana McKie, Anya Pijper, Lottie Seddon

PICKLEBALL & BASKETBALL

Basketball and pickleball both made their debut in our extracurricular programme this year, giving pupils the chance to try something completely new. The sessions were led by Mr O'Neill and Ms Xerri from the Languages Department, with support from Mrs Foster.

For many of the girls, it was their first time playing either sport. Basketball sessions focused on the basics, including dribbling and shooting, while pickleball introduced pupils to a completely different style of game. As the weeks went on, it was great to see everyone becoming more confident and getting to grips with the rules.

The sessions quickly became something pupils looked forward to, with girls of all abilities getting involved and giving both sports a proper go. A huge thank you goes to Mr O'Neill, Ms Xerri and Mrs Foster for giving their time and helping get both clubs off the ground. We hope basketball and pickleball will be back again next year!

PICKLEBALL YEAR 7

Saarah Ali, Isabella Chan, Kylá Chenda-Joseph, Roseanna Haydari, Evie Heald, Jessica Holt, Annabelle Hutchinson, Constance Kendrick, Abigail Knight, Safa Musa, Addison O'Hare, Perfect Olabisi, Aisha Patel, Mya Shah, Anika Shetty, Mali Thomas, Amelia Tickle, Neve Traynor, Orla Wilson

YEAR 8

Sarrinah Adam, Eshaal Bashir, Kate Brooks, Safaa Kothia, Mariyah Patel, Aiza-Noor Sarwar

BASKETBALL YEAR 7

Roseanna Haydari, Sahana Jacobs, Safa Musa, Dhyana Samji

YEAR 8

Raha Bagheri, Mabel Cahill, Noor Khunda, Stephanie Li, Kemi Nyang, Olivia O'Neill, Eshana Suresh, Siena Wright, Ella Wrigley, Maryam Zumla



ROUNDERS

Rounders has been a huge hit this summer, with pupils across the year groups getting involved in club sessions and fixtures against Canon Slade School, Bury Grammar, Thornleigh College and Ladybridge High School.

The season finished on a high at the Bolton Town Championships in the final week of term. Every team gave a brilliant account of themselves, but Year 8 and Year 10 stole the show. Both squads fought their way through to the final, where Canon Slade stood between them and the title.

The girls held their nerve when it mattered and came away as Bolton Schools Town Champions 2025 in both age groups. A huge well done to everyone who played their part in such a successful season!

YEAR 7

Rumaysa Abdullah, Neili Adhikari Mudiyansele, Maryam Ahmad, Astrid Ajibade, Jaydeep Banga, Simran Bharath, Charlotte Buchanan, Kaylani Cann-Tucker, Erin Chalk, Isabella Chan, Kylá Chenda-Joseph, Natasha Chiu, Iris Cutler, Ayaat Duffy, Sare Ercan, Zainab Fatima, Chloe Gay, Alexia Genesis, Maisie Godfrey, Tanvi Halai, Orla Hatton, Roseanna Haydari, Evie Heald, Ruby Holker, Aisha Hussain, Annabelle Hutchinson, Sahana Jacobs, Bella Johnson, Ayzah Karim, Eve Kelsall, Constance Kendrick, Mukti Kerai, Rukshmani Khimani, Alice Lomas, Frankie Longton, Tullah Maher, Sana Matak, Charlotte McCarren, Mia McNulty, Nancy Michael, Sophie Mitchell, Amelia Moore, Safa Musa, Maryam Naeem, Bella Naughton, Ivy Nuttall, Pippa Nuttall, Jasmine Odukoya, Addison O'Hare, Perfect Olabisi, Frankie Ord, Izzy Owen, Aisha Patel, Avni Patel, Kya Patel, Maariyah Patel, Alice Plenderleith, Dhyana Samji, Molly Scales, Millie Scholes, Mya Shah, Jessica Shannon, Anika Shetty,

Sienna Shum, Bronwen Soper, Parivash Taimur, Darcey Tomlinson, Neve Traynor, Abby Tso, Isabelle Tunstall, Amelie Walker, Poppy White, Imogen Williams, Orla Wilson

YEAR 8

Sarrinah Adam, Aamina Akram, Leila Al-Hashmi, Safa Badat, Raha Bagheri, Eshaal Bashir, Aiza Bham, Freya Bielby, Ruqayyah Bobat, Lauren Brodie, Kate Brooks, Chloe Bui, Faatimah Buksh, Lucy Byrom, Delilah Caddy, Gabriella Chan, Simar Chandhok, Haniyah Cheema, Matilda Clough, Isla Donovan, Edie Doyle, Hattie Drake, Autumn Gibbins, Emily Guo, Elizabeth Hayhurst, Sakina Hussain, Poppy Ivers, Annabel Jackson, Medina Jiva, Layla Jones, Olivia Jones, Eve Kaboutian, Zainab Kapadi, Noor Khunda, Safaa Kothia, Meghana Laha, Avril Lewis, Stephanie Li, Aamilah Mahmood, Anniyah Mahmood, Hannah Majid, Florrie Manock, Malia Mayoua, Matilda McCann, Naoise McCann, Tabitha McNair, Samiah Mustapha, Ganeve Notay, Kemi Nyang, Tyra Odiana, Olivia O'Neill, Aaisha Pat, Faatimah Patel, Mariyah Patel, Siyona Patel, Tulsi Patel, Isabelle Pendlington, Imogen Quint, Amelia Rafiq, Poppy Rate, Sasha Roberts, Ruby Roocroft, Anna Ross, Eloise Ryder, Pippa Seddon, Inarah Seedat, Brooke Shum, Jessica Smith, Beau Strange, Eshana Suresh, Naeema Usman, Molly Wilkinson, Ella Wrigley

YEAR 9

Juliette Ahamed, Aisha Ahmed, Ayesha Ali, Zainab Ali, Maya Al-Safi, Laila Altaf, Iman Amin, Safaa Bhajji, Jess Bishop, Jessica Burns, Amy Caller, Evie Chadwick, Poppy Chande,

Daania Cheema, Olivia Chinwah, Larna Dhanji, Iris Graca, Sophia Green, Willow Greer, Katelynn Handisson, Urwa Haseeb, Bella Heywood, Georgina Heywood, Nancy Holmes, Grace Humphris, Isabella Hurst, Hajra Ibrahim, Michelle Ifebueme, Tallulah Jones, Hannah Karim, Aanya Katariya, Florence Kenny, Menesa Kilinc, Anjali Kishore, Hilary Lau, Scarlett Monks, Amina Muneer, Amelia Myring, Lucy Nelson, Fenia Nikoli, Amelia O'Neill, Jasmine O'Neill, Landa Osman, Zara Osman, Joy Oyekanmi, Holly Parrott, Aamina Patel, Aaminah Patel, Aishah Patel, Fatima Patel, Nishi Patel, Sienna Patel, Sofia Patel, Hiba Pathan, Ella Perrott, Deeya Pitalia, Isobel Plano, Emily Price, Evie Pursey, Olivia Ramirez, Megan Robinson, Paniz Rostami, Georgia Rostron, Lucia Ryan, Skye Simpson, Iva So, Beatrix Soper, Ruby Spencer, Bo Stretton, George Stubbs, Orla Sweeney, Soha Tariq, Halimah Umar, Ishana Wahie, Amy Wildon-Foster, Aimee Yeung, Karla Zglimbea

YEAR 10

Liya Ahmed, Dhatri Anil, Safiyah Arshad, Amina Bokhari, Holly Bromwell, Molly Davenport, Sophie Denison, Eliza Doyle, Jood Elkadi, Lola Errington, Alicia Gronowska, Fidi Haider, Bridget Horan, Nico Howarth, Harriet Kennedy, Vania Khan, Alena Livesey, Manha Mamaniat, Phoebe Masheter, Alinah McAllister, Lucy McLoughlin, Gracie Meadows, Niamh Molyneux, Tilly Morris, Sophie Neville, Daisy Newsome, Ella Parfrey, Anya Pijper, Amber Pilkington, Isabella Roberts, Zeest Salman, Charlie Shambrook, Sianna Tamlin, Scout Taylore-Knowles, Megan Woods

CRICKET

Cricket has been a popular choice again this year, with plenty of girls picking up a bat and getting involved both indoors and outdoors.

The season started with the ECB Chance to Shine Indoor competitions during the Spring Term. Despite having limited time to prepare, the U13s had a brilliant run, winning both the Bolton Area Final and the Greater Manchester Final. They then faced some very strong schools at the County Final and finished an impressive third overall.

The U15s also competed in the Bolton Area Final. They came up against some tough opposition and, unfortunately, their competition ended there, but there was much more cricket still to come later in the year.

By the Summer Term, Cricket Club was busier than ever, with more than 50 girls regularly coming along to practices. It was great to see so many wanting to play, including girls who were completely new to the team.

The outdoor season brought two competitions, the Chance to Shine outdoor tournament and the first ever Bolton Schools Cricket Competition.

At Chance to Shine, the U13s had a fantastic day, playing four matches and winning all four. The U15s had a strong tournament too, winning one of their two matches and drawing the other. After all those lunchtime practices, it was great to see everything starting to come together when it mattered.

The first Bolton Schools Cricket Competition gave even more girls the chance to represent the School. We entered both A and B teams at U13 level, with the girls playing five matches against Thornleigh, Canon Slade, Turton, St James and each other. After a busy day of cricket, the Bolton A team finished as joint winners with Canon Slade.

The U15s had four fixtures of their own, playing both Thornleigh and Turton twice. Exams and DofE expeditions meant numbers were a little lower than usual, but there was a nice upside. Some girls got the chance to play their very first cricket match for the School and did a brilliant job when called upon.

With indoor success, an unbeaten U13 outdoor tournament and more than 50 girls regularly turning up to play, it's been a great year for cricket. Even better, lots of new players have joined in along the way, so there's plenty to look forward to next season!

YEAR 7

Ruby Holker, Aisha Hussain, Mukti Kerai, Rukshmani Khimani, Tullah Maher, Mia McNulty, Maryam Naeem, Dhyana Samji, Rukaiyah Suleman, Ajwa Syed

YEAR 8

Raha Bagheri, Freya Bielby, Lauren Brodie, Faatimah Buksh, Mabel Cahill, Gabriella Chan, Simar Chandhok, Isabelle Donnelly,

Hattie Drake, Eva Furness, Autumn Gibbins, Emily Guo, Elizabeth Hayhurst, Sakina Hussain, Medina Jiva, Layla Jones, Naina Kapoor, Eshaal Khan, Stephanie Li, Hannah Majid, Naoise McCann, Tabitha McNair, Isobel Mitchell, Kemi Nyang, Olivia O'Neill, Fleur Oxley-Harrison, Aaisha Patel, Faatimah Patel, Mariyah Patel, Siyona Patel, Tulsi Patel, Imogen Quint, Amelia Rafiq, Poppy Rate, Ruby Roocroft, Anna Ross, Brooke Shum, Beau Strange, Eshana Suresh, Rosalind Turner, Naeema Usman, Ella Wrigley

YEAR 9

Zainab Ali, Laila Altaf, Iman Amin, Safaa Bhaiji, Jess Bishop, Jess Burns, Amy Caller, Evie Chadwick, Daania Cheema, Iris Graca, Willow Greer, Georgina Heywood, Grace Humphris, Isabella Hurst, Hajra Ibrahim, Amaira Jaidka, Tallulah Jones, Aanya Katariya, Florence Kenny, Anjali Kishore, Amina Muneer, Amelia O'Neill, Landa Osman, Joy Oyekanmi, Aishah Patel, Nishi Patel, Sienna Patel, Sofia Patel, Deeya Pitalia, Emily Fox, Evie Pursey, Olivia Ramirez Nieves, Paniz Rostami, Iva So, Beatrix Soper, Bo Stretton Gough, George Stubbs

YEAR 10

Holly Bromwell, Jood Elkadi, Freya Green, Alicia Gronowska, Alinah McAllister, Lucy McLoughlin, Niamh Molyneux

TENNIS

The tennis courts have rarely been quiet this year, with pupils across the year groups regularly turning up for training and making the most of every session. Fixtures were a little limited this season, but that didn't stop the girls putting the time in and sharpening their game whenever they could.

The biggest result came in the LTA Schools Competition Division B, where our Year 7 and 8 squad of Neili Adhikari, Annabel Jackson, Annabelle Hutchinson and Ruby Roocroft faced Merchant Taylors. The girls came through the match brilliantly to be crowned champions, giving the team a result to be really proud of. A big thank you also goes to Naina Kapoor, who supported the squad in the earlier rounds and helped them on their way through the competition.

With a title already under their belts and plenty of girls keen to keep playing, there is lots to build on next season. We hope to see more fixtures added to the calendar and even more pupils getting the chance to represent the School on court.

YEAR 7

Malaka Bakeer, Annabelle Hutchinson, Rukshmani Khimani, Jasmine Odukoya

YEAR 8

Freya Blomerley, Kate Brooks, Chloe Bui, Mabel Cahill, Gabriella Chan, Simar Chandhok, Hattie Drake, Annabel Jackson, Layla Jones, Naina Kapoor, Naoise McCann, Tabitha McNair, Kemi Nyang, Ruby Roocroft, Anna Ross, Brooke Shum, Grace Stead, Eshana Suresh

YEAR 9

Larna Dhanji, Noor Khan, Melissa Noon

YEAR 10

Amina Bokhari, Hannah Chen, Alena Livesey



WATER POLO TOUR TO MALTA

During the Easter break, our U13 team travelled to Malta for a water polo tour. It was a chance to spend time together as a team while also working on our technique and tactics. We had one-to-one sessions with experienced coaches in the water and even got to watch a professional match at the National Pool of Malta.

We also had the chance to play a match in the National Pool ourselves. Playing against local teams was a completely different experience and meant adapting to the Maltese style of play. We stayed in a lovely hotel for four nights and definitely made the most of the food and facilities while we were there.

One evening we went bowling, which quickly brought out the competitive side of our coaches! On our second to last night, we had a Hawaii-themed party, where everyone dressed up and played games. It was a really fun way to spend one of our last evenings together.

The timing of the tour couldn't have been much better, as the English Schools Mixed and Girls Finals were coming up when we returned home. All that training clearly paid off as we went on to win both national titles!

We're so grateful to all the staff and coaches who organised the trip. We came home feeling more confident in our game and having had such a good time together.

Darcey Tomlinson and Izzy Owen



FOND FAREWELLS...

Judith Naughton



I arrived at Bolton School Girls' Division in September 2009, so I have been part of the School for 17 years now. I had worked in two schools previously, starting my career at Moorside High School in Salford, where I had also completed my teacher training

from 1997 to 1999. I then moved to Thornleigh Salesian College, where my father had taught for many years in the Languages Department and where my brothers had also been students in the 1970s and 1980s, so I had spent a lot of time there as a little girl.

Working in the Girls' Division has given me so much joy. My amazing colleagues and all the wonderful students will be something that I will miss immensely. I particularly enjoyed doing trips with the girls. As a languages teacher, I was privileged to visit France with the exchange and I'm still in touch with my French family. Other trips included Malaga, Gredos and, in more recent years, the "bateau to the Château" in Normandy. Let's not forget my many trips to Patterdale, which were always fabulous. In fact, my very last trip of my career was going to Patterdale with my wonderful Year 10 form in June.

School has changed since 2009, of course, and probably the biggest difference is the advancements in technology. When I started teaching, I used to hand draw my own flash cards and create acetates for overhead projectors! The introduction of iPads meant that, when Covid hit, we were able to hit the ground running and immediately start teaching online.

My favourite School traditions are all in December. I loved the Prefects Panto. I was told that I should feel very privileged that I featured in my very first year at GD. The Ceremony of Carols is very much a highlight for me. I would always bring my parents and family, and we all found it very moving. We were always so impressed by the talent of the students. I'm glad to say that I will still be able to enjoy this Christmas celebration and plan on continuing to attend.

I'm most looking forward to spending more time with my family: my husband, our three girls and four grandchildren. Travel is also going to feature highly in my retirement. I already have two trips booked: a week in Mallorca at the beginning of September, something I've never been able to do with the career I'd chosen. Plus, I have a big trip planned in January to tour South America, completing the world tour I began during my sabbatical in 2018 to 2019. Exciting times are ahead.

Sarah Talbot

I started working at Bolton School Girls' Division in 2019. Both Mrs Martin and Mr Lovatt started at this time. They would go on to play integral roles in my life at Bolton School and beyond. Together, we enjoyed our first term. In our second, schools were closed as the Covid pandemic took hold.



Prior to starting at BSGD, I had worked at five schools, including one in Brunei and another in Rome. My appointment as Director of Theatre Studies, Speech and Drama at BSGD provided me with the opportunity to come home. I was delighted to return to the northwest. My

brothers and I were brought up in Lancashire. Indeed, one of my brothers attended the Boys' Division.

The best thing about working at Bolton School is sharing historic spaces with extraordinary students and teachers, all of whom are experts in their field. I have so many fond memories of working in both curricular and extracurricular settings. It was wonderful to witness the rise of the *Speak Out Listen In* programme. The run of *Twelfth Night* in February 2025 was another happy time. This production was run exclusively by students. The actors gave memorable performances while the stage management team, both backstage and in the operating suite, worked with efficiency and expertise to realise an innovative staging of Shakespeare's comedy. In so doing, they proved that the theatre is an inclusive space, which provides everyone – not just those who enjoy the limelight – with a chance to shine.

I am grateful to staff and students for all they taught me during my seven years at Bolton School Girls' Division. The spirit of dedication, aspiration and togetherness runs strong and I will use this to inform my work as Director of Drama at Royal Grammar School Worcester. I wish everyone in the Bolton School community Great Good Luck for the future.

DESTINATIONS OF LEAVERS – CLASS OF 2025

Faaizah Afinwala	University of Manchester	Politics and Arabic
Rabia Ahmed	University of Liverpool	Architecture
Fatima Ali	Gap Year	
Hamnah Ali	Keele University	Psychology with Foundation Year
Zaynab Ali	University of Salford	Diagnostic Radiography
Emma Arnison	Nottingham Trent University	Sport Science and Management
Zaynah Atcha	Liverpool John Moores University	Accounting and Finance
Harriet Atherton	Degree Apprenticeship	Law
Alisa Azimeh	University of Salford	Nursing
Elena Bartalotta	University of Manchester	English Literature and American Studies
Clarity Brabin	Liverpool John Moores University	Policing, Psychology and Investigations
Anna Brennand	Degree Apprenticeship	Business
Freya Brogan	Royal Holloway, University of London	Management and Marketing
Anya Brohi	University of Glasgow	Psychology
Annika Bullen	Gap Year	
Ella Chandra	University of Warwick	Politics and International Studies
Anna Clarke	Manchester Metropolitan University	Healthcare Science (Physiological Sciences)
Georgina Cooke	University of Leeds	Graphic and Communication Design
Verity Cooke-Scott	Lancaster University	Marketing Management
Amelia Cowin	University of Kent	Psychology with Clinical Psychology
Sophie Cutler	University of Manchester	Philosophy and Politics
Natalie Dalugoda	Gap Year	
Olivia Dance	University of Liverpool	Psychology
Hannah Davidge	Manchester Metropolitan University	Computer Science with Foundation Year
Imogen Ferrier	University of Leeds	International Business
Megan Fung	University of Salford	Fashion Design
Amira Gettins	Lancaster University	Mathematics
Gabriella Giambattista-Hunt	University of Leeds	Modern Languages and International Relations
Bethany Green	University of Leeds	Graphic and Communication Design
Elizabeth Green	Runshaw College	Art Foundation Course
Molly Grimshaw	London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London	History and Politics
Maya Guhathakurta	Sheffield Hallam University	Product Design
Maleehah Hafejji	Lancaster University	Law (Placement Year)
Adifah Hafejji	University of Leeds	Accounting and Finance
Vivienne Hall	University of Oxford	Politics, Philosophy and Economics
Charlotte Harris	Leeds Beckett University	Sports & Exercise Therapy
Yumna Hashmi	University of Birmingham	Psychology
Ella Hilton	Degree Apprenticeship	Engineering
Naomi Hitchin	University of York	Accounting and Finance
Alexia Howarth	University of Liverpool	Dentistry
Charlotte Howarth-Sinney	Lancaster University	Accounting and Finance
Caitlin Hurt	Degree Apprenticeship	Sales
Laura Hussein	University of Liverpool	Medicine
Martha Johnson	Gap Year	
Olivia Jones	Manchester Metropolitan University	Drama and Contemporary Performance
Zara Kadvu	Degree Apprenticeship	Audiology
Tavleen Kaur	Gap Year	
Sallie Kendall	University of Nottingham	Pharmacy
Fatima Khan	Gap Year	
Safeeya Khan	Gap Year	
Ananya Khisty	University of Leeds	Chemical Engineering (Industrial)
Jessica Knott	University of Leeds	Fashion Marketing
Gabriella Koussa	Durham University	Archaeology

Karishma Ladha	Cardiff University	Biomedical Sciences
Ayesha Lakhi	Gap Year	reapplying for Dentistry
Lok Ma	University of Bath (Architecture with professional placement)	Deferred
Uzaina Malik	The University of Edinburgh	Mechanical Engineering
Mia Maron	Durham University	Classics
Aisling McCabe	The University of Edinburgh	Philosophy and Politics
Olivia Melling	University of Liverpool	Business Economics with a Year in Industry
Zubaidha Maryam Mohamed Rifath	Keele University	Medicine
Fatimah Mohammed	Degree Apprenticeship	Accounting and Finance
Jacequine Mok	University of East Anglia	Medicine
Zahara Muhammed	Degree Apprenticeship	Financial Services
Nawal Nauman	University of Salford	Geography
Emilia Nuttall	Canisius University, Buffalo, USA	Science
Pip Nuttall	Nottingham Trent University	Graphic Design
Nadiya Parker	University of Manchester	Medicine
Ammarah Patel	Gap Year	
Farah Patel	Gap Year	
Maaria Patel	University of Cumbria	Health and Social Care
Parveen Patel	Manchester Metropolitan University	Animation
Nyah Pomian	University of Leeds	Medicine
Du'a Qedwai	University of Manchester	Computer Science with Industrial Experience
Maryam Rahumathulla	Gap Year	
Gabriella Read	Leeds Beckett University	Sport Marketing
Shanelle Royle	Royal Holloway, University of London	Modern Languages and Management
Anoushka Sharma	University of Sheffield	Biological Sciences
Ishaani Singh	University of Bristol	Chemistry
Caitlin Smith	Liverpool John Moores University	Law
Rhea Sudhakar	University of Leeds	Medicine
Sophie Swift	University of Manchester	Fashion Marketing
Alicia Taylor	University of Salford	Architectural Design and Technology
Emma Taylor-Beardsworth	Manchester Metropolitan University	English and Film
Shreya Tol	University of York	Law
Erin Turner	University of Reading	Pharmacy
Aisha Ughradar	University of Huddersfield	Science
Ogechukwu Umeadi	Plovdiv Medical University, Bulgaria	Dentistry
Zainab Usua	University of Manchester	Biosciences with a Foundation Year
Olivia Walker	University of Liverpool	History and Politics
Mia Walters	Northumbria University, Newcastle	Product Design
Bing Yu Wang	University of Manchester	Chemical Engineering
Tilly Watkinson	University of Salford	Film Production
Freya Wood	University of Dundee	Biological and Biomedical Sciences
Isabelle Worth	University of Manchester	English Language and German
Catherine Xi	Durham University	Mathematics
Tehreem Zafar	Lancaster University	Biomedicine (with a Foundation Year)
Kashaf Ashraf	Imperial College London	Medicine
Hafsa Bapu	University of Huddersfield	Science
Zainab Ibrahim	University of Lancashire	Neuropsychology
Olivia Myall	Northumbria University, Newcastle	American Studies (with a year abroad)
Shilpa Nair	University of Sheffield	Medicine
Nissa Rattoo	University of Lancashire	Medicine and Surgery
Suzanna Simmonite	University of Cambridge	Engineering
Haylie Tsang	Newcastle University	Medicine and Surgery
Eimaan Yaqoob	University of Birmingham	Economics



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